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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

Large Number of Local Bills Introduced.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.
HARRISBURG, PA., January 16, 1872.

SENATE.

The Senate met at eight o'clock, but adjourned without transacting any business of importance.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at eight o'clock. The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Bowman, to rebuild the jail in Armstrong county; also, increasing the pay of referees and witnesses.

By Mr. White, to provide for the calling of a convention to amend the Constitution; also, incorporating the Pittsburgh and Economy Railroad; also, supplement to the Sewickley ferry; also, to repeal the act of 1810 taxing certain officers, and for the relief of the Pittsburgh city and Allegheny county.

By Mr. Taylor, incorporating the America Insurance Company; also, incorporating the Enterprise Savings Bank of Allegheny; also, incorporating the Tenth Ward Bank of Pittsburgh; also, supplement to the Freehold Bank and Building Association; also, supplement to the Pittsburgh Life Insurance Company.

By Mr. Edwards, incorporating the Mount Washington Land Improvement Company; also, incorporating the Smith's Ferry Oil Transportation Company of Beaver; also, incorporating the Pittsburgh and Montana Mining Company; also, supplement to the Duquesne Grays.

By Mr. Sample, incorporating the Germania Sick and Relief Society; also, authorizing Saint Paul's German Evangelical Church to remove their dead.

By Mr. Gilfillan, incorating the Manchester Loan Association of Allegheny; also, relative to public roads in Upper St. Clair Township.

By Mr. Valentine, authorizing the School Board of Mount Washington to borrow money.

By Mr. Fleeger, for the general reorganization of the militia.

By Mr. Henry, supplement to the lumbering act of Clearfield, Clinton and Elk.

By Mr. Gray, supplement to the act incorporating Titusville.

The Speaker announced the committee to investigate the George O. Evans war claims case, to consist of Messrs. White, Hewitt, Hancock, McConnell and Noyes.

The Speaker also announced that he had issued a writ of election for Bedford and Fulton counties, to fill the vacancy, on the 15th of February.

Mr. McJunkin offered a resolution for final adjournment on the 28th of March. Referred to the Committee.

Mr. Sanner introduced a bill providing for a triennial enumeration of children of scholastic age, and extension of the school term.

Adjourned.

NEW YORK CUSTOM HOUSE.

Continuation of the Investigation—Applicants for the General Order Business.

NEW YORK, January 16.—At the Custom House investigation this morning affidavits from the Appraiser were received in disproof of the charge that the case, belonging to H. B. Claflin & Co., was robbed while in the department. A letter received from John J. Robinson stated that, for having fearlessly testified before the Patterson investigating committee a year ago, he heard he was to be removed from his inspectorship. He also learned that he was reported for receiving a bribe of fifteen dollars, whereas the fifteen dollars were for extra services. He was decided to hold night sessions hereafter at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

H. B. Claflin testified that he had no fault to find with the seizure business, and had no personal knowledge of the case. His goods that were opened, he believed by the former general order system, should be restored.

R. F. Mudgett frequently heard, during his ten-year service, of officers receiving gratuities from merchants, and they also stated to him that they had paid the inspectors for sending their goods past general stores through quickly.

Mr. Mudgett said he had counseled Grinnell to resist the disgraceful system of permitting advertisers from Washington getting all the "phims." Grinnell said he should. About that time Louis Dent, brother-in-law of the President, wanted Grinnell to give the general order cartage business to a "certain party." That party consisted of General Porter, Leet, Lindsay and others.

Gen. Porter afterwards came on to Grinnell and gave an order to send goods to Bixby's store, Bixby having arranged with Porter & Co.; Bixby told witness he paid Leet five thousand dollars a year; Leet was then on Grant's staff, remained in Washington a year after the arrangement. At the end of the year Leet & Co. got the general order business; subsequently Gen. Porter told witness in Washington that neither himself, Babcock or Leet had anything to do with anything in the New York Custom House, and explained Leet's attempt to get the business by means of the President's letter.

Senator Casserly—And all this time how long had Colonel Leet been receiving five thousand a year out of the general order business? Answer—Something about a year. Witness said Leet & Co. must be making one hundred and fifty thousand to two hundred thousand dollars a year clear profit out of the general order business. Officers connected with compromising cases also make out of the Government; political assessments in the Custom House are still continued; payments are mostly made through fear of removal.

Henry C. Lake testified: He was a weigher under Grinnell, but removed by Murphy; that workmen and worthless clerks were detailed to assist, though the services rendered their employment unnecessary; said he had paid assessments on three occasions amounting to one hundred and ten dollars; his removal was made because he was a Conkling man.

Mr. Shaw, merchant, said he considered it very unlikely that the Secretary of the Treasury could hear of merchants bribing inspectors; never said Blackmail Hilton himself, and considered the merchant who offers the bribe just as guilty as the officer who takes it.

Alfonso Pullman, cabinet maker, was next examined as to what he knew of a primary in the Eighteenth district in the fall of 1870. He was one of the candidates. The President of the association was a Custom House clerk, and refused tickets from parties known to be his (Pullman's) friends. The inspectors got their bodies between him and the table, and, as he thought, put tickets into the box without count. The inspectors were John R. Lawrence, clerk in the naval office; Josiah F. Thompson, in charge of postoffice station, and Allan J. Dennis, clerk in the office of Internal Revenue. It is a notorious fact that Custom House officers are used throughout the city for political purposes, and clerks hold office by their fidelity to the power that appoints them. He believes the power of the Collector would be used to control party issues; has heard of an inspector of election in 1871 being offered $500 by Murphy to carry another primary.

Charles S. Grant, clerk in the Appraiser's Department, and at present reporter and correspondent for the press, stated that his friend Terry, a Custom House employee, told him of having been offered promotion in January by Arthur, Murphy and Howe, for signing returns of primary elections; that there was repeating at the election; that he was one of the inspectors, and that he finally signed returns in December he also told witness the returns were fraudulent, and the pressure on him to sign them was made by Arthur, Murphy and Howe.

Wm. H. DeCamp, lawyer, formerly employed in the naval office, testified to his being removed by an order from Washington after Murphy's appointment, and as he understood on representations sent to Boutwell by Murphy. Mr. Grinnell, naval officer, gave him the notice, stating at the same time he was one of the most efficient officers and best Republicans that he knew, and that no charge was made against him. Question—Whose influence was brought to bear on Grinnell to remove you? The President's, as I was informed. Question—Do you know of other instances of public interest being so set aside? Answer—There were several others removed about the same time from similar causes. The witness said he was President of Lake County first District Republican Association. He refused to appoint persons designated by Murphy as inspectors at elections for the district and county conventions.

The committee then adjourned to meet next at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, where they will hold day and night sessions.

STATE POLITICS.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
HUNTINGDON, PA., January 16, 1872.

Huntingdon county instructed unanimously for Col. Jordon for Governor. K. Allen Lovell, Esq., was elected delegate.

Testimony in the Wharton Trial Closed.

ANNAPOLIS, January 16.—Professor Aiken was again before the Court at the Wharton trial to-day, and explained his method of medical analysis. Other physicians gave their testimony, going to show that Keech had not died of cerebro-spinal meningitis. Much of the evidence adduced to-day was simply a defense of the chemistry of Aiken, and his delivery of their professional skill. After this evidence the Court announced that the argument of counsel was about to commence, and during its continuance no manifestation of approval or disapprobation in any manner whatever would be permitted. They were cautioned against any exhibition of feeling. At 1:30 P. M., State's Attorney Revell rose and commenced the opening argument of the case.

Mr. Revell continued his argument till three o'clock, when the Court adjourned.

Hon. W. B. Allison Elected to the U. S. Senate.

CHICAGO, January 16.—Hon. Wm. B. Allison was to-day elected United States Senator by the Legislature of Iowa. In the Senate the vote stood, Allison 40, Knapp 7; in the House, Allison 78, Knapp 18—in each case a strict party vote.

XLII. CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 16, 1872.

SENATE.

Various petitions were presented and referred. Mr. SHERMAN reported from the Finance Committee for the repeal of duty on coal and salt, which was recommitted, 32 to 18.

Mr. CAMERON reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations a resolution calling on the President for information concerning the seizure of American vessels and the imprisonment of American citizens by the Government of Venezuela. Adopted.

Mr. SCOTT called up the bill amendatory of the act to reduce internal taxation, providing for the refunding of taxes upon dividends, interest, &c., but Mr. EDMUNDS insisted on the regular order, the amnesty bill, which sent Mr. Scott's bill over for the day.

After a short executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Messrs. Scofield, McCreery, Smith, of New York, Voorhes and Marshall were appointed the special committee on the Louisiana imbroglio.

Messrs. BROOKS, BANKS, KELLY, of Pennsylvania, and SHELLABARGER, made speeches on the proper means for securing the restoration of American commerce, brought out by a bill for increasing the pay of the American consul at Tien-Tsin. The debate took a wide range, bringing wooden and iron ship-building, the duties on iron, copper, glass, cordage, &c. Mr. Brooks claimed that if the tariff on those articles were removed, the American flag, over ships built in New England, will be floating on all seas. Mr. Kelley referred to a letter in his possession from a Philadelphia ship-builder, which he should have printed in the *Globe*, which will be an effective answer to the gentlemen. He says that the rolling mill must be near the ship-yard, inasmuch as the plates are modified by every modification of the model, and to admit foreign iron free of duty would effectually extirpate iron ship-building in this country, even for the coastwise trade.

Mr. BROOKS—How unjust the gentleman is to his own State. Restore the tariff and ships will be built in Pennsylvania, Delaware and other places in close contiguity to iron and coal.

Mr. KELLEY—The iron ship-builders of Chester and Wilmington and Gloucester, New Jersey, with one exception, agree in saying that to remove the duty on iron would be to prostrate their ship-yards, and they ought to know their business.

The debate was continued until the hour of adjournment.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

PARIS, January 16.—The sale of the newspapers *Constitution* and *Gaulois* are prohibited by the Government.

The meeting at Marseilles last night protested against the proposed taxation of raw material. Some of the speakers were violent in their denunciations of the Government for seeking to increase the burdens on the industry of the country.

PARIS, January 16.—The hostility to imposing a tax on raw material is spreading throughout the country, and deputations are daily arriving at Versailles to protest against the measure.

Notwithstanding the efforts of the French authorities to prevent the assassination of German soldiers in the occupied departments, these outrages still continue. Another case is just reported, the victim being a Prussian soldier belonging to the garrison at Luneville, in the Department of Meurthe. The German military commander has demanded the surrender of the assassin, and the French authorities are searching for him.

French ladies, residing in various European capitals, have opened Bazars for the purpose of collecting money to assist in paying off the German war indemnity.

The Markets.

LONDON, January 16, 2 P. M.—Consols 92¼. American bonds—5-20s of '62, 91; 5-20s of '65, 90¾; 5-20s of '67, 89½; 10-40s, 91¾.
FRANKFORT, January 16.—5-20s of '62, 96¼; 90¾.
PARIS, January 16.—Rentes 56 francs 20 centimes.
LIVERPOOL, January 16.—Cotton quiet and steady; middling uplands 10½d. Red winter wheat 12s 7d. Receipts of wheat for the past three days 25,000 bushels American. Corn 33s 3d.

FIRES YESTERDAY.

Reading, Pa.

READING, January 16.—This city was visited by a destructive conflagration to-day, destroying nearly half a square on Fifth street. The State House and a large number of prominent buildings were consumed. It is estimated that the loss will reach a quarter of a million dollars, partially insured.

Toledo, O.

TOLEDO, January 16.—The round house of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad at this point was destroyed by fire this morning, together with six locomotives. The estimated loss is one hundred thousand dollars. The amount of insurance cannot be ascertained.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Gov. Parker, of New Jersey, was inaugurated yesterday.

The German Lodge of Masons, of Wisconsin, are in session at Madison.

Bernard Bilgin has challenged the four-oared crew, with whom he has a championship, to come to this country next August to pull for £500. Wm. Blakely responds for the English crew, that if the Biglin crew go to England that they can be matched for the same amount.

Gov. Parker, of New Jersey, was inaugurated yesterday. His message recommends increasing educational facilities; contains legislation which gives municipal government into the hands of Commissioners; urges the proper treatment of children engaged in factories, and the appointment of a Bureau of Labor. He regards with suspicion the ignoring of State rights, and the tendency to centralization; favors amnesty to the South; urges harmony; condemns the narrow spirit of partisan legislation.

In the Ohio Senate yesterday, bills were introduced to allow a widow to make her election under a will after the expiration of one year, when prevented within the year by fraud, coercion or misrepresentation; to prescribe the appointment of receivers of railroads; to prevent unnecessary accumulation of money in county treasuries by the collection of taxes, and providing for the collection of taxes in each district; and memorial to Congress for letting contract for State printing for one instead of two years.

A delegation of prominent Mormons are on their way to Washington, where they will clamor for the admission of Utah into the Union, and endeavor to have the prosecution against Brigham Young and others stopped. The Gentiles are aroused, and will protest against this.

Charles Stow, editor of the Girard, Pa., *Chronogolite*, has been sued for libel by S. E. Woodruff, a lawyer of Girard and Register in Bankruptcy for that district. Damages laid at $5,000.

New York Gleanings.

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Douglass has notified the Committee of Congress considering the New York Central scrip dividend tax that unless they render report by the 20th inst. he will order the immediate collection of the tax, leaving the question at issue to be settled hereafter.

It is reported that Charles O'Conor has decided to break up the Bureau of Municipal Correction, considering it proper that further proceedings against the municipal robbers be conducted by the Republican Attorney General Barlow.

The Heath-Raphael suit against Erie was terminated by the mailing of the remaining 12,750 shares to England.

Though Stokes will be arraigned on Thursday, the trial is unlikely to be tried until the next term of Court, in March or April.

It is stated that Stuart's sugar refinery has suspended business temporarily.

Good, Strong & Co., gold and stock brokers have suspended.

Mr. Powers, proprietor of the Grand Central Hotel, states that he has never made out or presented a bill against the estate of James Fisk, Jr., for expenses incurred at the time he was shot. The subject of bills was casually mentioned to a gentleman who called on behalf of Mrs. Fisk, to obtain articles belonging to Colonel Fisk, and that question asked if he considered $2,500 too much, in view of the fact that Fisk's friends had taken possession of the hotel during the time he remained there, and that all the private parlors on the first floor were appropriated; meals furnished to a large number of friends, and considerable money paid out at the office for various purposes. The gentleman promised to call next day, but failed to do so. Mr. Powers says he has not determined upon the amount of the bill, but the charge will be only that which is right and just.

The steamer Algeria to-day took for Europe $210,189 in specie, mostly silver.

At a meeting of the Commissioners of Emigration this afternoon a letter was read from the Secretary of State, stating that our Minister in London had been directed to protest against the importation of criminals into this country.

At a meeting of the Committee of Seventy to-night, a Sub-Committee made a report of gross frauds perpetrated by those who participated in the frauds upon the country, and promised soon to have a detailed report ready for the press.

It appears to be the popular impression in England that a general assault will be made against the government system of denominational schools and instruction immediately after the assembling of Parliament.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

TINKERING AT THE TARIFF.

REPORT OF THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The Tax on Dividends in 1870.

Time Extended for Applications for Pensions.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 16, 1872.

Temper of the Senate Finance Committee.

The Senate Finance Committee, in the various reports submitted to-day, demonstrated how different are the virtues of its members on revenue and financial matters from those entertained by the Ways and Means Committee in the House. Mr. Sherman, who has just made his appearance since the holiday recess, submitted a report to-day which covers the entire ground on the tariff question traveled over by the Finance Committee in its sessions last fall and this winter. This report was submitted also for the sake of being printed, and its recommittal asked for. Mr. Trumbull objected to this latter course, on the ground that the committee had been asked to consider the propriety of putting coal and salt on the free list, and that it now encumbered these propositions with recommendations which brought out the whole tariff question, thus attaching a general bill to one offered for a particular purpose. Independent of the right of the Senate to originate revenue bills, which the House always zealously denied, Mr. Trumbull urged that the proposed action of the Senate Committee could only defeat the very object for which they had originally passed coal and salt bills. By opening up this complicated subject, the discussion of which would take months, final action on these bills would be indefinitely postponed, and Congress would again adjourn with these bills still pending. Mr. Ferry, of Connecticut, also took the same view, and protested against mixing up coal and salt with the genuine tariff bill. Mr. Sherman explained that he had no desire to delay action on these particular bills, but that he simply conformed to uniform usage in moving that the report be printed and then recommitted, in order that the Finance Committee might have the benefit of suggestions from representatives of the various interests to be affected by the report, before finally placing it in the hands of the Senate. On the question of recommittal the yeas and nays were ordered with the following result:

YEAS—Messrs. Ames, Anthony, Brownlow, Caldwell, Carpenter, Chandler, Clayton, Conkling, Corbett, Davis, of West Virginia; Edmunds, Fenton, Ferry, of Michigan; Frelinghuysen, Gilbert, Harlan, of Maryland; Hamilton, of Texas; Hamlin, Morrill, of Vermont; Morton, Nye, Osborn, Pomeroy, Pool, Ramsey, Sherman, Sprague, Stockton, Tipton, Trumble—total 38.

NAYS—Messrs. Blair, Cole, Cooper, Davis, of Kentucky; Ferry, of Connecticut; Flanagan, Johnson, Kelly, Lewis, Logan, Machenzie, Sawyer, Schurz, Spencer, Sprague, Stevenson, Tipton, Trumble—total 18.

Present and not voting—Sumner and Morrill of Maine.

The bill as reported from the Committee places only those articles on the free list which do not enter into competition with American industries, and those articles of foreign imports entering into general consumption in about ten per cent. Those articles on which duties are abolished are such as do not enter into general use, and from which but little revenue is derived. The articles excepted from the ten per cent. reduction are brandies, wines, cigars, and other like commodities designated in the bill.

Chicago Relief Bill Passed.

The House passed, without objection, Mr. Burchard's bill, reported from the Committee of Ways and Means to-day, providing for the relief of sufferers at the Chicago fire, by admitting free of duty all material used in rebuilding the burnt district. The amendments to this bill, however, may be questioned, in the light of the report of the Finance Committee submitted to-day by Senator Wright, recommending that the second section of Logan's bill, which virtually incorporates the provisions of Burchard's bill, be stricken out. The report was submitted for the purpose of being printed, and its recommittal was asked for and granted. Logan, however, improved the occasion by delivering his anticipated speech on this bill. He remonstrated against the recommendations of the committee that the second section be stricken out, and made a strong appeal in behalf of its retention. He received the extent of the fire, and alleged that from its magnitude it might be considered by Congress what the President had styled it, a national calamity. When this bill does get before the Senate, it will meet with considerable opposition, especially from those quarters devoted to protection.

Tax on Dividends in 1870.

In the report of the Senate Committee on Finance, submitted to-day, was a recommendation for an amendment for Mr. Howe's bill declaring the intent and meaning of the act of July 19, 1870, to relieve railroad and other corporations from the tax upon dividends, interest and individual profits, accruing in the last five months of 1870. Mr. Scott proposed to so amend Howe's bill that the tax shall be collected, and two and one-half per centum on moneys arising from these sources for the year 1871. It will be remembered that the amount involved in this proposition is about two millions of dollars, and that the liability of the Companies to pay this sum has been held time and again by the Internal Revenue Department. For the past seven months of 1870 these corporations paid five per cent. as assessed by law, but when the act to reduce internal taxes was passed as above, they refused to pay the two and one-half per cent. under the new assessment within the last five months in the year, on the ground that an equalization of what they paid for the first seven months would more than meet their liabilities under the law.

Butler and Dawes on Civil Service Reform.

In the House to-day, Dawes and Butler took exactly opposite and equally decided positions upon civil service reform. The matter came up incidentally upon a bill to repeal the office of consular salary. Dawes said the single determination of the President not to receive recommendations of members of Congress in favor of applicants for office would go further to reform the civil service than all the speeches that could be made in the House. Butler said he for one did not believe in this self-abnegation of members. He thought he might be knew more of the fitness of persons in his district than any broken down schoolmaster could know in Washington, or could find out by asking how far it was from the earth to the sun.

Applications for Pensions.

The House Military Committee to-day agreed to report a bill extending the time within which applications for pensions may be filed to the thirty-first of January of next year.

Ministers' Salaries.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs have agreed to report a bill raising salaries of the ministers to St. Petersburg and Berlin from twelve thousand dollars to seventeen thousand five hundred, which latter is the same as the salaries at London and Paris.

The Florida Affair.

The affidavit of the Captain of the Florida was sent to the Navy Department instead of the State Department, but Secretary Fish, upon having a copy brought to his attention to-day, addressed a formal note to the Spanish Minister, asking him to call the attention of his Government to the statements made in the affidavit.

Cincinnati Pension Agency.

The nomination of Gen. Browne as Pension Agent at Cincinnati was withdrawn, to enable Mr. Davis to resign, to date April first, the end of the current quarter. The name of Gen. Browne was then sent to the Senate a second time this afternoon. He will probably be confirmed at once, but his commission will be dated April first. There has been no effort on the part of Mr. Davis to prevent the confirmation of Gen. Browne.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 16, 1872.

THE PROPOSED REDUCED TARIFF ON IRON, COAL AND SALT.

The tariff bill reported by the Senate Finance Committee as a substitute for the House bill repealing the duties on coal, iron and salt, proposes to fix the following duties: On all bituminous coal, fifty cents per ton of twenty-eight bushels, eighty pounds to the bushel; on salt in bulk and on all rock salt or mineral salt, nine cents per hundred pounds; on salt in bags, sacks, barrels or other packages, twelve cents per hundred pounds; on all iron and steel, all manufactures of iron and steel of which either of such metals is a component of chief value, excepting pig iron and steel rails, ninety per cent. of the present rates of duty, being a reduction of ten per cent. On teas of all kinds, ten cents per pound; on coffee of all kinds, two cents per pound; on chicory and saccory roots, burnt or prepared, three cents per pound; on acorn coffee and dandelion root, raw or prepared, and all substitutes for coffee, two cents per pound; on all extracts for essences of coffee, fifty cents per pound; cleaned rice one and a quarter cents per pound; uncleaned rice, one cent per pound; paddy three-fourths of a cent per pound; potatoes, ten cents per bushel; timber not otherwise provided for, one cent per cubic foot; lumber of spruce, hemlock, white wood and bass wood, one dollar per thousand feet; other kinds, two dollars; if planed or finished, one dollar per thousand additional, for each side; if tongued or grooved, two dollars additional; if planed on two sides, tongued and grooved, two and a half dollars; hubs and blocks, rough hewn or sawed, twenty per cent. ad valorem; pickets, palings and laths, twenty-five per cent. ad valorem; shingles, fifty cents per thousand; pine clapboards, two dollars per thousand; furniture, unfinished, thirty per cent. ad valorem; casks, barrels, sugar boxes, shooks and packing boxes, not otherwise provided for, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem. A tariff of ninety per cent. of the present rate of duty is provided for all manufactures of cotton, all woolen goods and all manufactures of wool; all manufactures of silk which are now subject to a duty of sixty per cent. ad valorem; all metals, other than iron and steel, and manufactures thereof; hides, skins, bone, ivory, horn and leather or manufactures thereof; India-rubber, gutta-percha, straw and oil cloths. Chemicals, drugs and medicines, and a large number of minor articles are added to the free list.

THE PRESIDENT DECLINES TO FURNISH PROOFS TO WARMOUTH.

The President received a telegram from Gov. Warmouth last night, transmitting a resolution passed by the Legislature, requesting the President to place the military forces in the vicinity of New Orleans at the disposal of the Governor. The latter, therefore, asked that the request of the Legislature be complied with. The President referred the telegram with instructions to Attorney General Williams, who forwarded this answer:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, }
WASHINGTON, January 15, 1872. }

To His Excellency, Mr. Warmouth, Governor of Louisiana:

SIR: The President has referred to me your dispatch of this date, representing that the Legislature of the State has asked to have the military force of the United States placed at your disposal to preserve the public peace, &c. There is a contest as to the legality of the election of the Lieutenant Governor, and also as to the existence of the lower branch of the Legislature, dispatches having been received here from two persons, each claiming to be Speaker thereof, and the President does not feel that he would be justified in deciding upon the merits of this question, and under existing circumstances, and is unwilling to interfere with the military power of the Government except in a case of legal right and overruling necessity. Respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM A. WILLIAMS, Attorney General.

A dispatch was received from New Orleans to-day, stating that in view of the repeal of obnoxious laws by the Legislature yesterday, it is hoped harmony will be restored.

Presbyterian Missionary Convention.

A meeting was held yesterday morning, at ten o'clock, at the Third Presbyterian Church, Sixth street, for prayer and conference, preliminary to the annual meeting of Home and Foreign Missions, which was to commence its sessions in the evening. Rev. Dr. Speer, of Philadelphia, was called to preside.

The meeting was very spirited and interesting. Several gentlemen from the city, and churches in the neighboring counties, made brief addresses. Much interest and enthusiasm has been manifested, according to one, in several churches in the southern part of the county since the commencement of the week of prayer. The same interest is reported in the churches of Saltsburg, Livermore and vicinity, in Indiana county. Several touching narratives were given of cases of conversion or revival.

One was that of a little girl, whose experience was so genuine and heartfelt, that the pastor and session of the church to which she belongs would be wrong not to admit her to the communion, that she might obey the injunction, "Do this in Remembrance of Me."

Much feeling was exhibited in the prayers offered for a great and general revival of religion, and for the Divine blessing upon the Missionary Convention about to assemble. Quite a number of those present were in tears. It was felt that the meeting was a suitable preparatory one to the Convention.

The Convention will be well attended by numerous delegations from the churches of this region, and arrangements have been made to secure the largest attendance possible at the public meetings. Its sessions will be held in the Third Church, morning, afternoon and evening today.

His Usual Luck.

Mark Twain has been particularly unfortunate this season in getting enmeshed in railroads. Yesterday he added another to his pleasant recollections of travel. He was to leave our city for Lock Haven at 2:50 yesterday afternoon, but the Pan Handle being in its usual condition, "an hour behind time," the eastern train did not get off on time. As a consequence Mr. Twain missed connection for Lock Haven at Tyrone, and had a good prospect of disappointing the audience, when Mr. George C. Wilkins, Superintendent of the Tyrone Branch of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad, kindly forwarded Mr. Twain half way to Lock Haven on a freight train, and subsequently sent him the rest of the way on an engine—and all free of charge. Mark felt so astonished by the courtesy extended that he "wept seriously," and then telegraphed his adventure to a friend in this city last night.

Turn About.

A man named Thomas Fitzgerald made an information recently against a Mrs. Douglas of this city, charging her with the larceny as bailee of a watch-chain. It appears that Fitzgerald had visited the house of the defendant, which is of rather doubtful reputation, and had allowed Mrs. Douglas to take his watch-chain. That she did so well that she refused to return it. Yesterday there was hearing in the case which resulted in a withdrawal of the prosecution. Mrs. Douglas then made an information against Fitzgerald, charging him with having committed adultery with Georgie Ward. The defendant in this case gave bail for a hearing.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

COL. WM. PHILLIPS was missed from Councils yesterday.

The Caucus nominees went through swimmingly in Councils, yesterday.

THE taxable valuation of the real estate in this city is a fraction over $15,000,000.

The newly appointed Police Committee will meet at the Mayor's office this evening.

The city is about to go in debt for $3,000,000 worth of water works and $1,000,000 worth of pipe.

The precise age of the stories told at Library Hall last evening should be investigated by the Committee on Retrenchment and Reform.

LAST evening Mr. John M. Osborne was elected Second Lieutenant of "C" company, in Lieutenant Dalzell's (Duquesne Greys).

The next style of hat to be worn by nice young men is to be ornamented, one-quarter of an inch deep, with black crape.

Dr. J. Ann. has been chosen by the Local Board of the Central district school to represent that district in the Central Board of Education.

WM. PETERS has been awarded the contract for supplying the jail with meat, at $4 95 per hundred pounds for boiling beef. When will similar prices rule at the butcher stalls?

LAST evening, in the lecture room of the Rev. Mr. Yeomans' Church, Mr. Sidney Marlowe recited Poe's "Raven." He was rewarded with worthily earned applause.

R. H. SMITH, Esq., of the Sixteenth ward, "regaled" a number of his personal and political friends at Hubley's, Penn avenue, last evening, by a supper. The supper was gotten up in the best style, and the enjoyment was complete.

ALDERMAN KOENIG yesterday committed James McIntyre to jail to answer at a hearing for committing an assault and battery on Geo. Henning, without provocation. Mr. Koenig's friends attempted to rescue him from the police, but they were successfully repulsed.

YESTERDAY afternoon Theodore Weine made an information against Albert Butcher, charging him with the larceny of a quantity of bologna sausage from deponent's shop in the Tenth ward. Alderman Koenig issued a warrant and the defendant was arrested and held for a hearing.

KATE FLANNIGAN charged Frank Sullivan with false pretense yesterday before Alderman Koenig. The allegation is that Sullivan obtained clothing to the amount of $9 15 by representing that he owned a lot in Lawrenceville, all of which it is alleged is false. A warrant was issued.

MR. JOSEPH SNOWDEN has been awarded the contract for transerbing the Assessors' duplicates for 1872, at twenty-two cents per hundred lines. Last year Mr. John Ross had the contract at twenty-five cents, the work costing the county $1,541 93. Mr. Snowden is every way competent to do the work. He has a large clerical force in number, and ranged from twenty-two up till seventy cents per hundred lines.

G. W. BARTHELD, traveling agent for McCullough & Co.'s liquor house, fell yesterday at the corner of Smithfield street and Strawberry alley, and broke his leg. It is only about four weeks ago that Mr. B. was thrown out of a buggy at Parker's Landing and had his arm broken. He was taken to his residence on Butler street, Fifteenth ward, where Dr. Clarke attended to his injuries.

THE lot of ground, corner of Liberty and Market streets, twelve and a half feet front by seventy-seven feet deep, was sold yesterday, by H. B. Smithson, for $23,000, one-third cash, one-third in ninety days, and balance in eight months. J. Aschiem was the purchaser. Wilson Corder, Esq., and sister, of Rochester, Pa., were the owners. The price paid was $1,850 per foot—one of the best sales of real estate ever made in the city.

LAST night our reporter learned that a committee of gentlemen called upon the agent of the Associated Press in this city, and requested him, on behalf of "Miss Olive Logan," to pronounce by telegraph that the death of her sister would in no way interfere with her lecture engagements. The Associated Press agent, we are informed, did not see that he could do any free advertising of that nature. Correct.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

Charlotte Bronte should have lived to see Maggie Mitchell play "Jane Eyre." There have been other actresses who have produced dramatic versions of the book and given various interpretations of the character of the heroine; but this which Maggie Mitchell plays is the most skillfully constructed version of them all, and her idea of *Jane Eyre* is the only one that casts aside the conventionalities of the stage and seeks to convey the spirit of the author.

To say that the piece is amazingly effective is to speak very mildly of its merits. The main incidents of the story have been grouped with artistic sense and feeling; and the result is a graphic sketch, at once strong in outline and delicately marked in points of detail. Each act is quietly worked up to a climax that engrosses the attention to the moment the drop descends. Then put up feeling must have vent, and the result last evening was that Maggie Mitchell had to appear five times before the curtain. Four times the stalwart Shewell led her forth and once the portly Ward.

Of Maggie Mitchell's performance it would be a labor of love to write in the humor of critical sweetness long drawn out. It was a performance worthy of minute analysis and almost unqualified eulogy. But to use an original and strictly copyrighted phrase, time and space forbid. All that can be said now is that she was exquisitely natural and self-contained throughout; that every shade of emotion, whether of anger or loving kindness, of pride or pathos, was portrayed with true artistic feeling; and that altogether, it was a grand triumph of energy and resolution over difficulties of which but few of her audience knew anything.

Mr. Ward was, as he always is, careful and conscientious in what he had to do with his share of the distribution, and Mr. Shewell's *Lord Rochester* was good enough, so far as he understood the meaning of the part he had to deal with. Yet he should remember that *Rochester* was a gentleman; and that, if he was curt in his words and manner, he was never coarse nor surly. Little Maggie Glenn came nearest to sharing the sympathy of the audience with Maggie Mitchell. She is a remarkably pretty and intelligent child, with a clear musical voice and distinctness of enunciation rarely heard upon the stage in one so young.

This evening "The Pearl of the Savoy"—the drama from which the libretto of "Linda di Chamounix" is taken—will be given. "Fayor the Old Man's child's Secret" and "Little Barefoot" are in preparation.

Fifth Avenue Opera House.

The audience at this theater nearly filled the house, and seemed to derive as much enjoyment as ever from Mr. Johnny Thompson's ingenious endeavors to amuse them. Mr. Thompson will repeat "On Hand" to-night and to-morrow evening appear in a new drama, of which the hero is said to be something like *Pluck*; in "Our Gentleman." Next week the wonderful juvenile actor, Master Percy Roselle, commences an engagement, either as *Skylock* or in "The Boy Detective."

Trimble's Varieties.

This popular place of entertainment is nightly thronged as usual. To say it was crowded last evening is only to state a fact which might well be stereotyped. The performances are constantly changed and varied, with that tact and knowledge of the public taste which only managerial experience can give, and the consequence is an uninterrupted career of success.

AN ODD TRANSACTION.

How Some Notes Were Liquidated.

Proceedings were instituted yesterday in the Prothonotary's office by J. H. McCloy, for use of J. Willard Grubbs, her assignee, against John W. Carothers, of Pleasant Valley, Monongalia county, West Virginia. The papers filed set forth that during last April Carothers sold to McCloy $4,982 worth of oak lumber, which was delivered to him at Price's Landing. On the arrival of the lumber at the point of delivery, Mr. McCloy's agent received it and gave promissory notes in payment therefore. In the month of August following it is alleged that Mr. McCloy called a meeting of his creditors, at which all the others was present, being a creditor by virtue of the notes held by him. No compromise was effected at this meeting, and Carothers, doubtless with an idea of keeping himself safe, took his lumber elsewhere and sold it, using the money to liquidate the notes. Since than the defendant in the case has gone into bankruptcy. It is also stated that pending the proceedings Mr. Carothers offered to return the notes, marked "cancelled." The usual papers in such cases were issued.

Entertainment by the Boston Mutual Literary Society.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.
BOSTON, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, }
PA., January 16, 1871. }

Last evening the citizens of Boston were most delightfully entertained by the Boston Mutual Literary Society. The entertainment was a select oration by Messrs. C. A. Newlon and A. M. Pearce, in which they acquitted themselves nobly; next, an essay by Miss Flora Douglass, on Mens' Rights, in which the lords of creation were highly commended for the noble deeds they might perform; then an original oration by Mr. Wm. L. Douglass, on the "Future Destiny of the Negro," which will have done honor to the halls of Congress. After this two very interesting dialogues were recited, one by eight boys, the other by ten girls; subject, "Crowning of Florence Nightingale." The young Misses were very tastefully dressed. Now came a debate on the question "Man as a Free Moral Agent," by G. W. Harper and Lizzie Douglass on the affirmative, and W

The Daily Commercial.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1872.

AN Iowa letter says that the Republicans of that State are preparing to move in favor of the Hon. JAMES F. WILSON for President. The writer says this will not be done in a manner to give offense to other distinguished men, but to show that there is a man in Iowa eminently fit to be President, and that the Republican party will study its own interest by nominating him.

BAEZ, it would seem, has set his heart on a protectorate of some sort. The latest report from San Domingo is to the effect that the President of that country has made overtures to the British and Italian governments to enter into an alliance for maintaining the integrity of the republic should the pending negotiations with the United States fail. It is also said that Germany was solicited to become a party to the agreement, but declined.

THAT consistency is a jewel of the first water is as generally conceded as is the claim of England to the motherhood of the whole fraternity of modern free traders. Yet that Government, which does not believe that the industries of any country can be promoted by direct legislative care, has given its cordial sanction and approval to the step lately taken by the Government of British India, in directly engaging in the cultivation of tea and cotton, and the establishing of a gin factory for the supply of gins to native growers. This solicitude for the promotion of the interests of her colonies is very creditable to England, and if it continues we shall presently expect to learn that she has wholly withdrawn her opposition to the tariff policy recently adopted by her Australian colonies, granted to Canada the exercise of the protective principle, and complimented the United States on its judicious system of discriminative duties. For, when one begins to do well, there is no guessing to what degrees of excellence he may ultimately attain.

IF SENATOR CARPENTER, in attacking the new plan for reforming the Civil Service, was simply trying to find out what the country thought about it, by this time it is probable all doubts are removed from his mind; for from nearly every quarter of influence has he been sharply rebuked. It has moreover been made evident that General GRANT is neither slumming nor likely to be driven from his position. There is in the comments of leading Republican journals on this subject all that the President could desire to encourage him to go straight ahead. Congressional office brokers, in and out of the Capitol, are given to understand, also, that they may support the reform or not, just as they please, denounce General GRANT or support him, according to their humor or interest; he is not going to waver. A step backward or even indecision now would be fatal. The tide of popular sentiment on the subject, already high, is rapidly rising, and if to promote his own personal fortunes were his object, scarcely ever before did such an opportunity exist—the like of it seldom occurs to a public man. The CARPENTERS in Congress either do not perceive this, or perceiving it, would deprive Gen. GRANT and the public of the necessary results of firm and intelligent action. They seem not to know or care for the fact that popular sentiment will not be cheated, and that if Gen. GRANT does not improve the opportunity some one else will,—for you can no more repress popular sentiment concerning the evils which beset the public service, and the demand for reform, than it was possible to repress public opinion when the Tammany frauds first startled the country.

COUNCILS met yesterday and elected the city officers chosen in caucus on Saturday last. Messrs. BURGWIN and BEYMER were re-elected as Water Commissioners. The standing committees for the year were also announced. In Select, Mr. MCCARTHY offered the draft of an act for the equalization of the valuation of real estate for taxable purposes, the object of which is to secure from every property owner the actual value of his realty, so that each may be taxed in proportion to what he owns. The present system of valuation and taxation is notoriously unjust, and the principle of the bill is correct and should be made of universal application. Taxes need not necessarily be increased by it, as the millage goes down in proportion to the increase in valuation. The main purpose is equalization, so that one tax-payer, or class of tax-payers, may not be compelled to pay a larger proportion than another. To prevent detriment to the interest of those owning city property, a section is added making it a misdemeanor in office for any assessor or commissioner to make the city valuation a basis for county purposes. That the present valuations are merely nominal will appear plainly enough when it is stated that they show the realty of Pittsburgh to be less than $70,000. Of the twenty-five thousand taxables of the city, it would not be difficult to select one hundred whose aggregate wealth in real estate would cover the entire valuation. The time is coming, and perhaps it is not far distant, when the people of the entire State will see the justice of basing taxation upon the real value of the property taxed. In the meantime, any progress in that direction should be encouraged.

LABOR STRIKES IN GERMANY.

The movement among European workingmen for higher wages and fewer hours of labor would seem, from our cable dispatches of yesterday, to be at length assuming almost the form of an epidemic, and spreading itself through almost every department of industry. The simultaneous strikes at Stuttgart and Chartero, cities in different kingdoms, shows how widespread is the discontent of the industrial classes in the countries which they affect. As a general rule, the working classes of Germany are simple and frugal in their habits, regarding as superfluities many things which, in some other countries, are considered to be necessaries, and strikes in that country are not indulged in from slight and frivolous causes. A recently published report of the British government respecting the condition of the industrial classes and the purchasing power of money in foreign countries, says Germany, that although the present rates of labor are much higher than those of fifteen or twenty years ago, the condition of the working orders is still most unenviable, and that when the wants of families are taken into consideration, the wages paid for labor of all descriptions appear to be very inadequate. In Belgium, notwithstanding the great agricultural wealth and flourishing industries of the country, the mechanic and laborer are in a condition of poverty approaching to wretchedness. Agricultural laborers earn only from thirty to forty-five cents a day; while in manufactories common workmen are paid from thirty to fifty cents, skilled hands seventy to eighty, those who earn from one to two dollars being altogether the exception. It is the same in Germany. In neither of these countries do the common people enjoy a tithe of the comforts of the same classes even in England, while the contrast with the condition of the industrial orders of the United States, the report states, is still more striking. According to the statistics presented in this report, and the comparisons drawn from them, the United States is the paradise of workingmen; a fact which deserves to be very thoughtfully pondered by everybody whom the vexed question of the relations between capital and labor interests or concerns.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

Some of the Democratic newspapers fancy that one effect of the existing Spanish imbroglio is to throw discredit upon the past policy of the Administration towards Cuba. But it is not easy to perceive between the two subjects any such relation as they try to establish. In its treatment of the Cuban insurgents the Administration is admitted to have strictly adhered to the well understood principles of international law, and to have fulfilled all the obligations which, as the Government of the United States, it owed to Spain, a friendly power, and, upon the whole, its course was completely sanctioned by the public opinion of the nation whom it represented. If in some instances the American government accepted Spanish promises of reform in its method of administering its rule in Cuba as grounds of indulgence and for continuing to recognize its authority in the Island, the Administration still merely exercised the courtesy which one sovereign owes to another. For the false inferences and generally wrong impressions which Spaniards may have derived from American forbearance, the Administration is certainly in no measure responsible. The American people, we believe, do not profess any natural taste or fondness for war. It is in their judgment an evil in itself which may not be wantonly incurred, but which when necessary must be firmly and bravely met. That it may be thus encountered it must be obviously just and necessary. To a great majority of the American people war with Spain on account of Cuba last year would have *seemed* neither just nor necessary, but impolitic and uncalled for. War with Spain now, rendered inevitable by Spanish outrages, followed by refusal of apology and indemnity, will quite as certainly be regarded by a large majority of the nation as a conflict for principles which may not be surrendered without national dishonor and disaster, and the right of their cause will appear reinforced by the scrupulosity and patience of the past.

It is almost idle to indulge in speculation concerning the course which Spain is likely to pursue regarding the question at issue, when the telegraph may at any moment announce positive results. There is, however, no harm in saying that some people look for pacific action in Madrid, with a confidence which is hardly warranted by Spanish reputation, or by recent facts. Proud people do not usually find it agreeable to make apologies, and they are notoriously disagreeable to Spaniards, whose pride is so exaggerated that it easily rises into arrogance. Under the influence of irritation they are more liable than almost any other European nationality to indulge resentment at the expense of prudence. Their national susceptibilities have been deeply wounded by the Cuban conflict, and there is no reason to think that the neutral policy of the Washington Government has, to any great extent, suppressed the abiding jealousy with which many Spanish politicians regard Americans as the people who are known to covet Cuba, and into whose hands even Spaniards perceive it is ultimately destined to fall. Though convinced, like Marshal PRIM, that the loss of the island to Spain is only a question of time, they yet feel that its loss, now at least, would involve the loss of honor, and honor is at once the forte and foible of every Spaniard, as it was of Gil BLAS. Now, public opinion in Madrid is known to have been greatly excited lately by dispatches from this country announcing a decided change of policy on the part of the Administration towards Cuba, as a means of securing the President's renomination and election, and whether the reported change be regarded as a fact, or as a mere electioneering manœuver, the report may help to decide the Spanish Cabinet in favor of resistance to the American demand for apologies. American patience and long suffering have, no doubt, been misunderstood by Spain, and threats of war believed to have been thrown out as a bait for popularity need not appear formidable. Assuming them to have been made in earnest, and as the first step in aggressive policy, many Spanish politicians will not consider them alarming. For many years a party in Spain has looked forward with satisfaction to a war with the United States. In a book on the future grandeur of his country, a Spanish Admiral, BARNADE, has treated the Monroe doctrine as the offshoot of American arrogance and presumption, and confidently prophesied that in case of a conflict between the two countries, Spain will be found much superior in naval power to her antagonist, and that not only the Spanish fleet will be victorious in every engagement, but that United States commerce will be annihilated by Spanish privateers. The author of this prophesy is the gentleman who was a few days ago announced by telegraph as the successor of Mr. ROBERTS as Spanish Minister in Washington. Though such predictions quite likely command ready credence in Spain, we may hope that Spanish statesmen will be willing to apologise to the United States for acts of the same kind for which the United States made humble apologies to England in the case of the Trent, and that they will thus avoid a war, of which one inevitable result would be the loss of the island which they think so essential to the prosperity and honor of their country.

A MEMBER of the New York Assembly has introduced a bill looking to the establishment of a free library system throughout the State, sustained, by a small per-centage to be assessed upon the citizens of such localities as may choose to adopt the plan. Such a system is in operation in Massachusetts, where it has proved itself not only practicable, but also eminently successful. In over fifty cities and towns in that State the scheme has been introduced, with, it is said, results of the most beneficial character, while new libraries are constantly forming all over the State at a rate which promises in a few years to establish one in every village and hamlet throughout the Commonwealth. The only doubtful feature of the plan, when first suggested, was as to the safety of loaning books to the people. This question, however, has been very thoroughly and satisfactorily answered. The public library of Boston contains upwards of 160,000 volumes, which are accessible from ten to thirteen hours a day, and of which about one-fourth are subject to the order of any one who desires to take them home, upon the single condition that the applicant shall give the names of two citizens as references. The Superintendent of the Library, in his last report, says that out of 218,677 issues, only twenty volumes were lost during the entire year, while the general testimony of the officers of these institutions throughout the State is to the same effect. Whether a free distribution of books can be made among the people with safety, is therefore definitely settled. The only remaining question is, as to the public value and usefulness of the system. This point we have before spoken of—indeed, the possibilities of good which inhere in the system are so manifest, that not a word need be said respecting them. What States and cities beside New York are also moving in the matter, and it would seem that the subject is well worthy the consideration of our own legislators.

PRESIDENT MCCOSH, of Princeton College, the other day delivered another address on the subject of Civil Service Reform and competitive examinations. Notwithstanding the sharp and unfavorable criticism to which the plan has been subjected, the venerable Doctor held that the principle was sound and wise, and that the measure itself was a long step in advance of the present vicious system of appointing political camp followers to office. With respect to the workings of the machinery prepared, he was not quite so sanguine; and thought that the examination ought to be on subjects of such a character as to show that the candidate had not only spent his youth profitably in the acquisition of knowledge, but that he had also gained fixed habits of industry and application. Dr. MCCOSH is not in favor of applying the system of competitive examinations to any offices except those to be filled by young men; since, while it would test directly the general ability and special attainments, and indirectly the habits and character of the candidate, it could be no such test of the intellectual and moral qualifications of men of middle age. At forty, a person likely to succeed at an examination would probably be a mere bookworm, instead of a capable and efficient business man. In such cases promotion should be made to depend on the general ability and faithfulness shown in the public service. From his prominent identification with the subject of Civil Service Reform in England, and the conscientious study which he has given to the subject in its varied aspects, the views and opinions of President MCCOSH are entitled to respectful consideration.

THE subject of popular education is attracting unusual attention in the State of Alabama. The State Board of Education proposes to establish five normal schools—two for the education of whites, and three for the education of blacks. Whether it is good economy to build five school houses where only three are needed, or to employ two teachers where one would do as well—whether, indeed, the education of the two races would not do more to break down the barriers of caste-prejudice which now exist, and to bring about a satisfactory solution of the perplexing social and political problems which now disturb the Southern States, perhaps admits of argument. In those Northern States in which the children of the two races are educated together, the system operates efficiently enough, nor does there seem to be any valid reason why it might not work equally well in Alabama or her sister States of the South. No such system, however, exists at present in any Southern State, and it will probably be some time before such a policy is adopted. Meanwhile the action of Alabama is quite commendable, the more especially when contrasted with the position maintained by her leading educators with respect to the colored race less than a year ago.

THE Superintendent of Public Printing at Washington has taken a step which, as a declaration of the right of every employer to manage his own business in his own way, is of considerable public interest. The stringent rules imposed upon master mechanics by certain trade associations, in respect to the employment of apprentices, are well known. The Public Printer, it seems, recently made application to Fishbourne's Society for a removal of these restrictions, so far as the Government bindery was concerned. The request was refused, whereupon, the Superintendent has announced his intention of hereafter appointing his apprentices without recognizing any right, except on the part of Congress, to dictate what number shall or shall not be employed. It is said that the various trade combinations have been considerably taken aback by this unexpected determination, which, it is reported, will probably be imitated in many other quarters, and that a general breaking up of these associations may be looked for at no distant date.

CONCERNING the result of the contest for United States Senator in Iowa, the New York *Tribune* says: "The Hon. WM. B. ALLISON, of Iowa, who has just been elected to the United States Senate in place of the Hon. James Harlan, has honorably and fairly won the distinction which he has achieved. Elected to Congress as long ago as 1862, he has proved himself an industrious, honest, and capable legislator."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The late Dr. Marshall Hall evidently possessed lungs and expansive lungs, which required an immense supply of oxygen for their regular inflation; but patients less bountifully endowed would scarcely have cared to call him in after reading his ideas on the subject of consumption. He says that if he were seriously suffering from that malady he would live out doors day and night, except in rainy weather or mid winter; then I would sleep in an unplastered log house. Physic has no nutriment, gaspings for air cannot cure you; monkey capers in a gymnasium cannot cure you, and stimulants cannot cure you. What consumptives want is air, not physic—pure air, not medicated air—plenty of meat and bread.

Rev. Dr. Peabody, of Boston, having last week preached the annual sermon before the Massachusetts Legislature from the text "Thou shalt not steal," the New York *Observer* thinks that if he could be induced to make a tour of the States and Territories, repeating his sermon before each Legislature and Congress, pausing in New York to deliver it to the Mayor and Aldermen and Custom House officials, he would be certain to reach a number of audiences that stand greatly in need of his instruction and exhortation. On his way West he might stop over at Harrisburg for a day.

Captain Barton, the African traveler, is on his way home from Palmyra, bringing with him a most interesting collection of skulls, and, more interesting still, the skeleton of a man eleven feet high, which is supposed to be one of the giants of Bashan.

Shadfishing is rapidly attaining to the importance of an industry in Florida. This excellent fish abounds in the St. Johns river, and the shad trade has already become a recognized feature of the Jacksonville market, a number of shipments having been made as far north as New York.

A number of the citizens of Bellville, N. J., have started a Sunday school for the benefit of the Chinese residents of the town. The average attendance is about fifty, and their shrewd questions are said to sometimes puzzle their teachers not a little.

The annual wail of the peach-growers respecting the damage done by the frosts has again begun. The Delaware and Maryland papers state that the extreme cold of December seems to have killed the peach germ, which, upon the bud being cut open, appears blackened, instead of green, as it is while alive. They add, however, that it is to be borne in mind, that the fruit-buds are very numerous on a peach, and if only a portion of them are saved there may be a moderate crop. To that result the indications now point.

The first instance in the history of Alabama of a colored man being presented to the Supreme Court of the State for admission to practice in the court, occurred last week. He (a full blooded negro) was admitted. "Here let us rest."

Immigration conventions are now the order of the day in the Southern States. Florida, in her turn, is moving in the matter; a convention of the landholders of the State being called to meet at Tallahasse next Wednesday, to take into consideration measures for attracting settlers to the flowery land.

Oakey Hall says that Mr. Bergh's real name is Burke, and that he made the change when on a visit to Russia some years ago. Mr. Bergh mildly insinuates in reply that Mr. Hall is what the *Tribune* is fond of calling those who disagree with it. The unselfish and boundless scope of Mr. Bergh's loving-kindness for the lower animals precludes any idea of the Celtic origin which Hall's slander inevitably suggests.

A main source of the popularity of the School of Journalism at Yale College is the idea entertained by applicants that membership entitles them to free admission to all the theaters in the United States and Europe.

Brewers are embarrassed, and ale drinkers who understand the business in despair. Coculus indicus and nux vomica are at a premium; for there are those who must have their lager or their Bass, and the production of these beverages has become essential to a widespread variety of human happiness. And all this inconvenience and poisoning of bitter beer comes of the hop pillow on which the sleepless Prince of Wales drew the first deep refreshing slumber. Everybody now, who doesn't sink into the arms of Morpheus the moment he wants to, scatters his horse hair or goose feathers to the wind and goes for hops. When this mania subsides the narcotic flowers will no doubt be returned upon the market, and then what a delicious flavor of hair oil our double X will have.

Still having Vallandigham on the brain the Hamilton, Ohio, *Telegraph* is possessed by a mania, that all persons who are killed with fire-arms shoot themselves while drawing pistols from their own pockets. It strives in a column article to show that Fisk came by his death in this way. The suggestion may be of value to the counsel for Stokes.

Alligators frisk among the palm trees on the shores of Lake Erie. At least that is the zoological and arboreal idea of Mr. Emil Ritter haus, a German poet, who is enraptured of this favored land, and has traveled extensively through it—in imagination.

The fact is remarkable that out of less than a dozen of really distinguished lady authors in this country, nearly two hundred are of Southern birth.

A new paper, called the North Vermillion *Chronicle* is to be published at Hoopston, on the Chicago, Danville and Vincennes Railroad. It ought to be printed with red ink.

PERSONAL.

It is said that MCCREERY of Kentucky never held any public office until elected United States Senator—not even Alderman of his native village—and yet it is not known that the world was any the worse off.

"Hope deferred maketh the heart sick." Ex-Governor Vance, of North Carolina, seeking no advance in his prospects of admission to the United States Senate, is reported to have placed his resignation in the hands of a State officer, ready to be tendered. This Senator, however, withholds it for a few days, until the disposition of the United States Senate upon the amnesty bill and Gov. Vance's claims to a seat are made known.

The career of Mr. O. P. H. Archer, the successor of Fisk in the Vice Presidency of the Erie road, is another manifestation of the "peculiar civilization of America" that might inspire a little patronizing pity from the English press. A few years ago he was an express messenger on the Hudson river road, at a salary, it may be safely supposed, of about sixty dollars per month. By energy and other such qualities of our American civilization, he is now worth a million of dollars, and is second in rank in the administration of one of the largest corporations on the globe.

The Cincinnati *Enquirer* of Monday says: Rev. Dr. Stuart Robinson, the distinguished Presbyterian divine of Louisville, is lying at the point of death from small-pox, said to have been contracted in this city.

Relative to the Fisk killing a New York letter says: Down town among the brokers and business men the sentiment is strongly anti-Fisk, and the moral sentiment of the community runs in the same channel, though from a different motive. On the other hand, there is a very numerous class, including the military, the firemen and the theatrical people, who shared Mr. Fisk's liberality when alive, and the sympathy of these naturally runs in the other direction. Between the two it will be hard to get an impartial jury.

And now Madame Thiers, inspired by the example of her husband, has addressed herself to the work of reform. She has taken off her false hair, and "invited," as the French express it, all the ladies of her circle to do the same. The result has sent a pang to the hearts of hair-dressers and hair-dealers. The French women are pulling all the hair off, and chignons, curls, plaits, and frizettes are given to the winds.

Mineral Discoveries in Ohio.

A ledge of cannel coal has been discovered, cropping out of the base of a hill on Mudlick, in German township, Montgomery county. It promises an abundant yield, burns well, but there is a considerable admixture of slate.

The Millersburg *Republican* announces the discovery of an abundance of good iron ore near that town, and in other parts of Holmes county.

A vein of black band iron ore, seven feet through, has been discovered on the north side of Bird's Run, in Wheeling township, Guernsey county, near the survey now being made for the Marietta and Pittsburgh Railroad.

Strike of Ohio Coal Miners Ended.

The trouble between the coal mines and their employers in Perry and Athens counties, Ohio, which has been of long continuance, and caused great anxiety among consumers, has ended by the strikers—or a great majority of them—resuming work. On Friday night the miners at Nelsonville, Athens county, decided by vote to go to work. The "Union," which, it is said, was at the bottom of all the trouble, is virtually broken up, and the more clear minded of the men say they are glad to be rid of its influence. On Saturday night the Straitsville Union voted to resume labor, and operations were commenced on Monday.

A Lecture Association

Has been organized in East Liverpool, Ohio, and a number of eminent lecturers engaged to lecture during the winter. Olive Logan will appear there to-morrow (Thursday) evening, and will talk about "Nice Young Men."

THE new Governor of Iowa is strongly in favor of the abolition of the Grand Jury system, which he regards as a costly and useless relic of by gone days.

WONDER-LAND.

The Marvels of the Upper Yellowstone—The Home of the Physical Forces—The Cradle of the Great Rivers—Beauty and Grandeur—Nature in her Wierd Moods.

One of the most interesting and valuable papers ever published concerning the wonderland embraced in the mountain regions of Montana and the valley of the Yellowstone river, is the report which Col. Barlow, of the United States Engineers, has just made to Gen. Sheridan, of a seven weeks' exploration among its stupendous mountains, canons, caverns and waterfalls, performed in the summer of last year. The exploration was undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining the sources of the Yellowstone, the party consisting of seventeen persons. The strange and curious freaks of nature encountered by the expedition on its progress are almost too extraordinary for words to describe.

Before getting fairly into the enchanted ground the party came across a boiling hot torrent of water, pouring out of a mountain, probably the outlet of a vast subterranean reservoir which supplied the large system of boiling springs on the mountain's side above; near which steaming river were a number of hot mineral springs, beside which a party of invalids from the Eastern States had formed a camp for the purpose of testing their healing qualities.

The party then passed into a region of hot soda springs of marvelous beauty, flowing from the top and sides of a hill of calcareous deposit, occupying an area of over a hundred acres, the upper surface of which was a plain composed of innumerable springs which constantly sent up volumes of vapor impregnated with sulphurous fumes, while the sides of the hill, down which the waters flowed, had become beautifully terraced into steps of regular height and width, as if carved out by man with the utmost artistic care.

Pushing on by cascade and canon, geyser and volcano, the expedition ascended into the mountain region, from which a magnificent view of the Yellowstone valley was obtained, with its mountain ranges stretching away in the distance southward to the limit of vision; also of the country lying west toward the Gallatin river. Grass and flowers covered the hillsides, interspersed with occasional groves of balsam, cedar and spruce. High cones of volcanic origin were seen in many directions, some of them fully fifty miles distant.

Descending the mountain, the party continued its circuit towards the north and east, soon encountering another canon as wild and precipitous as the one previously discovered, and affording still more beautiful scenery. A clear cut, hundreds of feet in depth, through the mountain's base allowed the passage of a small stream, which, about midway, rolled down a slightly inclined and rocky slope, then spread out into a pretty cascade of a hundred feet in height. More desperate climbing followed, when an elevated plateau was reached, whose side to the east had at some time dropped off, leaving a sheer precipice of seven or eight thousand feet in height, which made the coolest heads dizzy to look upon.

On still further to the canon of the Yellowstone, whose walls are composed of volcanic conglomerate, capped with basaltic columns. Many *pinnacles* remain, towering hundreds of feet in height, having about the proportions of an ordinary sewing needle. In many places below are observed steam jets rising from near the river's edge; indications of sulphur deposit are very numerous, while back from the river, to the east, the country rises rapidly, and soon becomes extremely rugged; high, barren peaks are seen above variously, as far off to the east and south. Col. Barlow ascended this range to the height of nine thousand feet above the sea, and judged that many peaks beyond were a thousand or fifteen hundred feet higher.

Next came a beautifully undulating country, covered with rich verdure and decked with wild flowers of every hue, many of them unknown in the Eastern States, although the elevation is so great (7,000 feet) that frosts occur every night during the year. Yet the vegetation does not seem to suffer from these summer frosts, the effect upon grass and flowers being apparently but that of dew.

Passing again into the mountains, whose summits were composed of the same mass of volcanic rock, apparently leveled down by the force of the wind, which sweeps with terrible violence over those elevated regions, the Yellowstone lake, although thirty miles distant, seemed to lie directly at the explorer's feet; while the valley of the river could be seen following the general direction of the mountain chain to the east, a stern, volcanic range of sharp peaks, many of them having the form of Egyptian pyramids, though, of course, of much greater magnitude.

Descending thence into a precipitous gorge or canon, two thousand feet deep, without vegetation or soil, and afterwards passing through leagues of pine forest and by streams which filled the air with their spray, having a odor of sulphur, the party reached the great falls of the Yellowstone. Of these Colonel Barlow says:

"There are two falls. The upper has a sheer descent of 115 feet, and the other, half a mile below, falls from the crest of a vertical precipice 250 feet into the grand canon. The country of the upper fall and the grandeur of the lower one are without parallel. For several hundred yards before reaching the brink of the upper fall, the river descends over a series of ripples. The solid rocks on either side converge, until the channel is narrowed to about 80 feet. The velocity of the current becomes intense. At the crest of the fall the whole volume of the river is projected outward, and separated at once into conical mas es of foam. These soon lose their individuality and gradually blend together, forming a dense white mass, which, upon descending, spreads out at the bottom with unrivaled grace and beauty. At the foot of this fall the great canon of the Yellowstone finds its beginning in a beautiful wooded gorge, between two and three hundred feet in depth. The river flows swiftly through smoothly, over a rocky bottom to the crest of the lower fall half a mile below. It then emerges from between the rocky banks, and makes its prodigious leap of three hundred and fifty feet into the depths of the great canon, where it rushes away in a perfect torrent over innumerable cascades and ripples. Beautiful eddies and whirlpools, which would dash to atoms any unlucky adventurer who should be so unfortunate as to find himself engulfed in them. The walls of the canon are composed of soft, disintegrating rock, the predominant color being yellow, intermixed with various shades of gray and red. The rocks are constantly crumbling down, leaving steep ridges and sharp pinnacles, hundreds of feet in height, standing out from the walls."

Near this region was an extensive brimstone basin, containing a large number of mineral springs, some of which had regular pulsations, like a steam engine, giving off immense quantities of steam, which issued forth with the roar of a hurricane. These were in reality steam volcanoes, and deep vibrations in the subterranean caverns, extending far beneath the hill, could be distinctly heard.

At last the party reached Yellowstone Lake, a beautiful sheet of water 7,500 feet above the sea, nestling among the snow-peaks of the highest mountain range on the North American continent.

"The rim of this lake basin is composed of a mountain chain varying from nine to eleven thousand feet in height above the sea, and inclosing an area of about 3,000 square miles. Beyond this rim the water slopes descend in all directions, and furnish the sources of the principal rivers of the continent. Forty of the most important tributaries of the Missouri, namely, the Big Horn, the Yellowstone, the Madison and the Gallatin, carry the melting snows from these mountains northward, and then through the Mississippi valley to the Gulf of Mexico, more than 3,500 miles. The Snake river, through its sources actually interlaced with those of the Yellowstone and Madison, traverses in the westward course nearly a thousand miles before it empties its waters with those of the Columbia, on its way to the Pacific Ocean; while the Green river, rising but a few miles from the sources of the others, seeks the deserts of the Colorado, and after innumerable windings in those deep canons, at length, after a course of fifteen hundred miles, reaches the Pacific through the Gulf of California."

The lake is very irregular in outline, and is about twenty miles across. The water is cool and pure. At this elevation the thermometer descends nightly from six to ten degrees below the freezing point, and yet the morning's sun melts the frost-work on the most delicate flowers, without causing their bloom to fade or their leaves to wither.

The party next visited the valley of the Geysers and mud volcanoes. Some of these latter are in constant ebullition, puffing and throwing up masses of parti-colored mud, and sending forth dense columns of steam hundreds of feet in the air. The geysers themselves, which are countless in number, range in size from a mere point to a hundred feet in diameter. Some of them have regular periods of activity, throwing up shafts of water in some cases to the height of over a hundred feet, while others seem to be constantly active, but eject water only a few feet above the surface. The water from these geysers is nearly pure though holding in solution silicates of lime and magnesia, which are slowly deposited at the craters in beautiful bead-like drops, in every conceivable variety of arrangement. One, called the great comet geyser, Col. Barlow says, threw a steady stream, very graceful and perfectly vertical, to the height of more than two hundred feet. The basins of these geysers are described as exquisitely beautiful. Some of them are lined with delicate deposit of rock, almost as white and fine as alabaster, while others are of saffron color, or vermillion, scarlet, purple, green, blue, amethyst—embracing among them all the colors of the rainbow. The temperatures of a number of them were taken, the average being about 160 degrees. The lowest temperature was 128 degrees, and the highest 190 degrees. Col. Barlow says that in the exquisite tracery of these deposits the lacemaker might find designs for his most elegant fabrics.

Close to this Geyser basin the explorers discovered a lake of hot water a hundred by two hundred feet, whose outlet was a porcelain channel of variegated colors, varying from bright saffron to deep vermillion. The middle waters of this remarkable lake were of ultramarine blueness, while its consecutive rings included nearly every imaginable color—green, yellow, orange and dazzling red.

Around several of these geysers the branches, cones and needles of fallen pine trees were completely incrusted with a rich coating of mineral-like frosted silver, fast becoming petrified, the wood already having partially changed into stone; while the trunks of others still standing were, for several feet from the ground, denuded of bark and incrusted with a perfectly white deposit of calcareous rock.

From observations which he made on the march, and from information derived from the packers who accompanied him, Col. Barlow is convinced that a practicable road, perhaps a railroad, can be constructed from the Yellowstone lake south to Snake river, and thinks it not impossible that a route for a railroad connecting the Union and Northern Pacific lines by way of the Yellowstone and Wind rivers, may be found. This would bring the wonderful region in question close to our very doors. Meanwhile it is even now quite as easy of access as the Jungfrau Alps, and it is likely that the report of Col. Barlow, adding, as it does, so much that is new and fascinating to the knowledge already possessed concerning this extraordinary region, will have the effect of considerably increasing the summer travel of tourists in that direction.

Shakespeare's Likeness.

Ex-Senator Wall recently stated in a lecture, delivered in New Jersey, the following curious circumstance in reference to a case of Shakespeare's face. He said:

It makes one sad as he reads the date on Shakespeare's monument, upon the wall just above the gray stone slab, to think that almost in the prime of life—for there were at least twenty years of intellectual power in the man—was the poet snatched away, and what Hamlets and Lears the world has missed. I hope that the tradition is true that the last play he wrote was "The Tempest," with its wierd creations "just on the skirts of human nature dwelling." Nor let us forget the bust above the monument. It is a face of exceeding calm and quiet; and, though it does not realize our conception of what Shakspeare's face ought to have been, there is about it a serenity and gentleness in keeping with all we know of his nature. Why, a short time ago, when I was in the studio of one of our leading American artists—Page—I was shown photographs from a wax cast of the face of the poet, said to have been taken immediately after death. The tradition runs that this cast was taken under the supervision of an intimate German friend and admirer of the deceased, who held a diplomatic position at the English court. He carried it back with him to Germany, and it remained a precious heirloom in the family for centuries. Recently, the family collection of curiosities being sold, it found its way back to England, where it has awakened an earnest interest among Shakspearian scholars. Several photographs have been taken from this cast and sent to this country. Page, who is a devoted admirer and diligent student of Shakspeare, is now engaged in what he intends shall be the crowning work of his life—a portrait of Shakspeare conceived from these photographs. He is now working carefully and earnestly on a bust in clay, taking these photographs for his guides, and when this bust is finished he intends painting his portrait therefrom. These photographs, presenting front, side and back views, the dome of thought, the palace of the soul, that magnificent skull and brow of Shakspeare appear to me to fail to do to the full the measure of our conception of the poet's face. The full front view of his cast resembles somewhat the bust in the monument, and the Chandos portrait, but magnified and exalted. It realizes more fully how Shakspeare ought to have looked, and, therefore, I am inclined to give preference to the tradition by which it is accompanied.

Death of Hon. Thomas Nicholson.

Hon. Thomas Nicholson, cashier of the State Treasury, died at his home in Frankfort Springs, Beaver county, on Sunday morning, after an illness of several months. Mr. Nicholson had been in public life for many years. He served as a member of the Legislature for several terms, and has been cashier of the Pennsylvania treasury during the greater part of the time since 1845. As an officer he always stoutly opposed extravagance; and his services in the Banking bills framed by the State rendered his services in the Assembly very valuable. His integrity in the discharge of duties, public and private, was above reproach. The State has lost a faithful and upright servant, while his death will bring sorrow to an extended circle of personal friends.

Thrown Reinforcements.

The Citadel of life is in a state of siege all through the year, but is never more closely invested than in mid-winter. The liver is usually somewhat torpid, and the bowels more or less constipated at this season, and dyspepsia often assumes its most aggravated form in cold and wet weather. In short, the sluggish system seems inclined to intermit or shirk some of its most important duties under the influence of a low temperature, and requires wholesome stimulation. The spur required is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the only medicine which quickens the action of the secretive organs, and brings out the latent vitality of the system, without creating any febrile symptoms, or the slightest nervous excitement.

The great vegetable tonic is not recommended as a specific for Coughs, Colds and Consumption—that field being left open to the conceits of preparations which cannot by any possibility reach the lungs; but as a specific for the constitutional and physical weakness which follows pulmonary disease, it is positively infallible. The most insidious and terrible enemy of human life is not disease itself, but the weakness which affords it an opportunity to gain a firm hold of the vital fortress. Remember that Stamina, vital energy—the life principle, or whatever you may choose to call the resistant power which battles against the causes of disease and death, is the *grand safeguard of health*. It is the garrison of the human fortress, and when it waxes weak, the fortress is in danger. Hostetter's Bitters, and other words, when such an emergency occurs, commence a course of Hostetter's Bitters.

PURE WHITE LEAD,
Pure White Lead.
Flaxseed Oil,
Flaxseed Oil,
Turpentine, Turpentine.
Varnishes, Varnishes,
Paints of all kinds, Paints of all kinds,
Sperm and Whale Oils, Sperm and Whale Oils,
And at the Lowest Prices at
JOSEPH FLEMING'S Drug Store,
No. 84 Market street, corner Diamond.
Where also may be obta'ned the Purest Drugs and Medicines, selected particularly for family use; also, Pure Wines and Brandies, guaranteed genuine, of my own importation.
84 Market street, corner of the Diamond.
PURE POTASH,
Pure Potash, Pure Potash,
Pure Potash, Pure Potash,
Pure Potash, guaranteed strength, No. 1, always on hand at JOSEPH FLEMING'S Drug Store,
No. 84 Market street, corner of Diamond,
English and Scotch Ales,
English and Scotch Ales,
English and Scotch Ales,
Of all kinds, constantly on hand, at
JOS. FLEMING'S Drug Store,
No. 84 Market street, corner of Diamond.

DRY GOODS.
Prices Reduced
FOR THE
HOLIDAYS!
BLACK SILKS,
STRIPED SILKS,
PLAIN SILKS,
BLACK IRISH POPLINS,
COLORED IRISH POPLINS,
BLACK REPPS,
COLORED REPPS,
CASHMERES. MERINOS,
EMPRESS CLOTHS,
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SACQUES, SILK VELVETS,
VELVETEENS, QUILTS,
BLANKETS AND FLANNELS.
FINE FURS,
A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT.
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118 and 120 FEDERAL ST.,
ALLEGHENY.

J. B. HOLLEY,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
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GRAIN, FLOUR, FEED, HAY, BUTTER, EGGS, CHEESE, POTATOES, FRUITS AND COUNTRY PRODUCE GENERALLY.
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Consignments respectfully solicited.
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W. S. Mook, Pittsburgh, Pa.;
D. S. Rout, Cas. Merch. Nat. Bank, Brownsville, Pa.;
B. F. Flenniken, Cas. First Nat. Bank, Waynesburg.

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Special attention of the Iron, Steel and Edge Tool Manufacturers, and other persons using Steel Stamps, is directed to examine the toughness and durability of our Steel Letter Cutting, which is unsurpassed by any in the State. All work warranted as represented. W. A. BUNTING'S Stencil and Engraving Rooms, 184 Liberty street, corner Virgin alley, Pittsburgh, Pa.

MARBLE MANTELS, MARBLEIZED MANTELS,
FURNITURE AND WASHSTAND TOPS, MONUMENTS, GRAVE STONES, TILE, &c.,
Made by Machinery, Sold Wholesale and Retail.
Sold at the Lowest Prices. For sale at the Pittsburgh Steam Marble Works, 319 and 321 Liberty street, Pittsburgh, Pa., by
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DRY GOODS.
Special Attention
Is Called to the Following
GOOD BARGAINS,
AT
WILLIAM SEMPLE'S
At $1 50 Ladies' All-Wool Felt Skirts, worth $2 00.
At $1, Ladies' Knit Underskirts, worth $2.
At $1, Balmoral Skirts, an extra bargain.
At 50c, All-Wool Shoulder Shawls.
At 50c, Colored Kid Gloves.
At 50c, Ladies' Gray French Corsets.
At 12½c, Ladies' Ribbed Merino Hose.
At 18¾c, Ladies' Ribbed Merino Hose, extra heavy.
At 62 and 75c, Men's Cloth Skirts.
A large stock of all grades, of Men's

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We Offer for Sale a Limited Amount of the new Bonds of the

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BEARING 7 PER CENT. INTEREST,

Free of All Taxation,

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GOVERNMENT SECURITIES RECEIVED IN EX CHANGE AT MARKET RATES.

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References—Tradesmen's National Bank.

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IRA B. M'VAY & CO.,

Corner Fourth Avenue and Smithfield Streets.

FINANCE AND TRADE

TUESDAY, January 16, 1872.

There is a fair demand for all the more reliable company bonds, and prices are generally pretty well maintained. Indeed, somewhat to our surprise, we find capitalists usually prudent in their operations who are investing in a class of railway bonds that a few years ago they would scarcely have touched at any price. This is the result of the steady rise in the prices of almost all railway bonds, for the last five or six years, within which time scarcely one company has shown default in interest, while several that had previously suspended have resumed.

We give below some tables of interest showing the earnings of the various Pacific railroads in operation. The large increase in their business is but a premonstration of the success they are sure to win. The Union shows an increase in her earnings of over one million dollars, while the Central could to-day pay a dividend of fourteen per cent. on her capital. With these results attained it requires no great foresight to predict for the Northern Pacific, with her larger land grant, lower gradient, more temperate climate and richer soil, a future more successful. In the figures given from the Minnesota State report it should be remembered that the St. Paul and Pacific Road and branch and the Lake Shore and Michigan are owned by and part of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

—Messrs. Morton, Bliss & Co., the financial agents of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, report the earnings below:

	November, 1871.	November, 1870.
Earnings	$1,096,147	$676,103 31
Expenses	672,703 61	272,739 04
Net Earnings	$423,143 07	$297,488 27

	Jan. 1 to Nov. 30, 1871.	Jan. 1 to Nov. 30, 1870.
Earnings	$7,128,142 09	$7,128,142 09
Expenses	3,223,152 56	4,382,010 43
Net Earnings	$3,703,597 55	$2,749,401 92

The net earnings in 1871 show an increase over 1870.

For November	$423,709 88
For ten months previous	902,485 83
And for eleven months	$1,028,195 63

—Messrs. Fisk & Hatch furnish the following table of the Central Pacific net earnings, interest liabilities and surplus earnings, after payment of interest, of each year since the road started:

	Net earnings, on bonded debt.	Interest paid on bonded debt.	Surplus of net earnings over interest.
1864	$46,972 36		$46,972 36
1865	64,236 06	$18,211	174,161
1866	96,178 90	77,340	529,762
1867	360,151 76	277,140	810,763
1868	1,469,776 00	1,084,250	1,507,147
1869	2,900,764 34	1,839,930	1,955,821
1870	4,382,010 43	2,826,188	2,559,500
Totals	$10,162,261 22	$7,302,233	$7,859,893

The entire surplus earnings from the beginning to the present time, amounting to $7,859,893, will be sufficient for a dividend of over 14 per cent. on the amount of capital stock issued.

—General Edgerton, the Commissioner of Railroads of Minnesota, has published a report of the operations of railroads in that State, from which it appears that the gross earnings of the several roads for the year ending August 31, 1871, were as follows:

St. Paul and Sioux City	$385,829 00
St. Paul and Chicago	39,150 00
St. Paul and Pacific—Branch Line	285,396 93
St. Paul and Pacific—Main Line	219,930 74
Southern Minnesota	468,930 97
Lake Superior and Mississippi	429,224 85
Minnesota Central	1,070,416 02
Hastings and Dakota	17,744 65
Winona and St. Peter	464,791 81
Total	$3,430,414 30

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morning.	Noon.	Closing.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	115¼	115	115
U. S. Bonds of 1867	115¼	115	115
U. S. Bonds of 1864	110¾	110¾	110¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865	111¼	111¼	111¼
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	110¾	110¾	110¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	111¾	111¾	111¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	111¾	111¾	111¾
10-40s	109½	109¾	109¾
New 5s	109½	109½	109½
30-yrs	108¾	108¾	108¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	108¾
United States 6s of 1881	115¾
United States 5-20s of 1862	110
United States 5-20s of 1864	110
United States 5-20s of 1865	111¼
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	109¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	111¼
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	111¾
Union Pacific Railroad	92
Central Pacific Railroad	96
Currency Paths	108¾

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

January 15, 1872.	10:30	11:30	12:30	1:30	2:30	3:00
Gold	108¾	108¾	108¾	108¾	108¾	108¾
Canton	81	81	81	81	81	81
West'n Union Tel	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾	73¾
Quicksilver	28½	28½	28½	28½	28½	28½
Pacific Mail	55¾	55¾	56¼	56¼	56¼	56¾
Adams Express	91	91	91	91	91	91
Wells Fargo Ex	58½	58½	58½	58½	58½	58½
American Express	61	61	61	61	61	61
United States Ex	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
New York Central	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
N. Y. Central Scrip	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾
Erie	20¾	21	21	21	21	21
Cleveland & Pitts	94¾	94¾	94¾	94¾	94¾	94¾
Chicago & North'n	72¾	72¾	72¾	72¾	72¾	72¾
Do. preferred	84¾	84¾	84¾	84¾	84¾	84¾
Rock Island	111¾	111¾	111¾	111¾	111¾	111¾
Ft. Wayne	91	91	91	91	91	91
St. Paul	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾
Do. preferred	67	67	67	67	67	67
Wabash	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾	37¾
Do. preferred	58	58	58	58	58	58
Fort Wayne	96	96	96	96	96	96
Ohio and Miss'pi	27½	27½	27½	28	28	28
Chicago and Alton	87	87	87	87	87	87
Do. preferred	123	123	123	123	123	123
Boston, Hoos'c & R	97	97	97	97	97	97
Harlem	116	116	116	116	116	116
Union Pacific	31¾	31¾	31¾	31¾	31¾	31¾

	11:30	1:30
Tennessee State bonds	68	68
Missouri 6s	92	92
South Carolina, July	69½	69½
South Carolina, April	69½	69½
Missouri sixes	92	92

Gold carrying at 7 @ cent.
Money 7 per cent. gold.

—The Security Trust Company, of which Mr. D. Gregg is President, has its sign out on Wood street.

—The Lawrenceburg Savings Bank, Cashier E. P. Whaley, is announced at Parker's Landing. New York correspondent, Jay Cook & Co.; Pittsburgh correspondents, Tradesman's National Bank.

—The Bank of Wellsburg, Wellsburg, West Va., Cashier T. A. Hammond, with a capital of $100,000, has commenced business in that place. New York correspondents Henry Clews & Co.; Pittsburgh correspondents Ira B. McVay & Co.

—In the *American Law Review*, for January, an exhaustive paper is devoted to "The Rate Railway and the English Stock," treating the subject as "a very laughable judicial farce which has lately had an unprecedented run on the New York boards." The villains of the piece are James Fisk, jr., Jay Gould and George G. Barnard, who, as usual, comes out triumphant in the end. The nameless individuals who, throughout the farce, are always ridiculously attempting to proclaim their wrongs and assert their rights against Fisk, Gould and Barnard, are a number of ignorant foreigners, citizens, in fact, of England, and stockholders in Erie. Mr. Justice Blackford, a new character, also makes his appearance, and greatly adds to the mystification of the foreigners and the amusement of the audience. There are the customary refusals of directors, agents, trustees, sheriffs, marshals, receivers, legislators, bravos, brokers and lobyists. The play might be called "A New Way to Pay Old Debts." After an edifying account of the proceedings of the English stockholders for the recovery of their property, the article concludes as follows: "The decision of Judge Blackford is simply unintelligible. Judge Barnard's part in the drama needs no explanation. His name and reputation are well known wherever the English language is spoken, as that of the first judge in English or American history who has thrown aside all pretensions even to the appearance of decency, and has openly professed his willingness to sell the process of his Court to thieves. He is still a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York."

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Penn'a Central	60¾	Lehigh Valley R. R.	60¾
Phila. and Erie	26¾	North Penn'a R. R.	59
Cata. Immigration	45¾	Schuylkill Navigat'n	17¾
Catawissa	46¾	Schuylkill Navigat'n, 1st preferred	35¾
Oil Creek & Alley R.	46	Reading	57¾

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY, January 17, 1872. }

REMARKS.—The crude market has pretty much suspended operations. We have heard of no transactions for some days. Dealers are not disposed to make prices satisfactory to each other, and unless sales are made it would be impossible for us to report them.

CRUDE.

The asking rates were, spot or January 10¾c; S. O., all year, 10¾c; B. O., all year, 13c; Parker's, $3 85@3 87; Foster's $3 90 @ barrel.

REFINED.

Market reported firm, but there was nothing doing. The asking rates were, spot or January 22¾c; February 23¾c; March 23½c, for eastern delivery.

[By Western Union Line.]

TITUSVILLE, January 16.—The market appeared more active yesterday than before for sixteen days, and prices were firm and well sustained on upper road at $3 87½, at which figures several thousand barrels changed hands, while on lower road the market opened firm at $4 03@4 07, and an advance to $4 15 was well defined. Following are the

SALES:

375 bbls upper road, spot	$3 80
5,000 bbls upper road, spot	3 87½
5,000 bbls upper road, spot	3 87½
2,000 bbls upper road, regular	3 87½
2,000 bbls upper road, S. O., first quarter	3 87½
1,000 bbls upper road, B. O., first half	4 00
1,000 bbls upper road, B. O., first half	4 00
1,000 bbls Rouseville, 47 gravity	4 05
320 bbls Rouseville, spot	4 07½
2,000 bbls Rouseville, spot	4 15
1,000 bbls lower road, spot	4 15
500 bbls lower road, spot	4 10
335 bbls lower road, spot	4 10
665 bbls lower road, spot	4 10
250 bbls Oil City, spot	4 25
1,000 bbls Oil City, spot	4 20

NEW YORK, January 16.—The market is dull and it is different to give fair quotations; crude in bulk quiet at 12¾@13c; refined 23¾c. Pork quiet and dull with nothing doing.

PETROLEUM CENTRE, January 16.—Market quiet and prices nominal; refined 23¾@23¾c; crude 13c; no demand for futures; crude in bulk 13c.

ROUSEVILLE, January 16.—Market quiet at 24 05; nothing doing.

FLEASANTVILLE, January 16.—Market quiet and not much doing at about $2 80@3 55.

Crude Oil Received by A. V. R. R.

Shipper.	Barrels.	Shipper.	Barrels.
G P Miller	228	Vesta Oil Works	228
Fisher Bros	228	Sunbeam Oil Works	228
Tyson King	228	Eagle Oil Works	456
Macomber, F A & Co	228	Macomber, F A & Co	228
Cook & Wilson	228	Liberty Oil Works	936
B S Duncan	228	Perrless Oil Works	1,066
L P Tack	228	Sunbeam Oil Works	222
B S Duncan	228	Duncan & Dan	948

Crude Oil Received by Rail and River.

	Bbls.		Bbls.
Vesta Oil Works	228	Sunbeam Oil Works	450
Eagle Oil Works	456	Macomber, F A & Co	906
Liberty Oil Works	936	Perrless Oil Works	1,066
Cochran & Davis	948		
Total			4,996

Shipments of Refined Oil East via A. V. R. R.

W. V. R. R. and P. R. R.

WEST PENN JUNCTION, January 15, 1872.

H W C Tweddle, 55 bbls to J R Bartlett, New York.

Lockhart, Frew & Co, 501 bbls to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Standard Oil Co, 427 barrels to Warden, F & Co, Philadelphia.

Livingston Bros, 200 bbls to Warden, Frew & co, Philadelphia.

John Spear & Co, 44 bbls to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.

Brann & Wagner, 250 bbls Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.

Wormser, M & Co, 100 bbls to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.

Fawcett, Logan & Co, 250 bbls to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.

Fulton, Marvin & Co, 50 bbls to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.

Wm McKelvy & Co, 267 bbls to Logan Bros & co, Philadelphia.

Total 2,144

Refined Oil Shipped East by W. P. R. R.

Kirkpatrick & Lyons, 225 bbls to Logan Bros & Co, Philadelphia.

Chas T Peace, 60 bbls to Isaac Odell, New York.

Total 285

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } TUESDAY, January 16, 1872. }

REMARKS.—The weather continues raw and cold, with occasional snow storms. Considerable ice has accumulated on the rivers, but not enough to impede steamboat navigation to any considerable extent. Large amounts of merchandise are daily arriving by river, and as a sample we refer the reader to the manifest of the Julia No. 3, from Zanesville, published in yesterday's COMMERCIAL. The markets continue to move along quietly, with few changes in leading articles worthy of particular mention. The receipts of grain continue liberal, yet previous quotations are maintained. Large amounts of green meats are daily arriving, and are being cured by bacon dealers. There is still a fair stock of old on hand, and a good trade demand is reported. Grocerries—As before reported, trade is fairly active, and prices remain firm at previous quotations, with the exception of coffees, which tend upward. Saturday's news from Rio shows an advance of ½c @ pound. This, with small shipments, undoubtedly cause a corresponding advance here. Jobbers are offering coffee for lower figures than they can replace the same grade. To-day's sugar still remains firm and scarce. Butter is still in large receipt, and the market is dull. Eggs are in larger receipt and prices are weaker. Hay continues in larger receipt, and prices are lower, $22@25 @ ton for baled being the outside figures. Cheese is in good supply, with a fair demand at unchanged prices. We omit extended quotations.

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } TUESDAY, January 16, 1872. }

Cattle.

The receipts of cattle this week to this time have been lighter, and in quality are fair. Advices from the east are favorable, and this, with the light run, has caused an active market. Cattle are selling at figures from ½ to ¾c higher than last week. The most advance is in good cattle, that grade being in best demand. A few loads of cattle were brought over from Allegheny this morning, which were offered at retail yesterday. These arrivals prove heavy during the latter part of the week dealers anticipate a good market. The following are the prices ruling for different grades: Extra, 1,200 to 1,500 pounds steers, $6 25@6 50; good to prime, 1,100 to 1,200, $5 25@5 75; common to medium, 1,000 to 1,100, $4 25@5 25; bulls, stags and cows, 800 to 1,500, $3 @@4 25; stock steers, 800 to 1,000, $3 75@4 25.

Hogs.

The receipts of hogs this week so far have been very heavy and in quality are fair. The market since our last report has declined about the ½ hundred for on the best grades, price Philadelphia now selling at $4 75, about the top of the market. If the receipts continue heavy prices will go lower, as already the supply exceeds the demand considerably. The following are the prices current for the different grades as bought and sold here: Extra Philadelphia $4 75; good to prime Philadelphia, 225 to 250 lbs, $4 60 to $4 70; good to prime, New York; 180 to 220 lbs, $4 20 to $4 35; roughs and common $4 00.

Sheep.

The arrivals of sheep fair, and in quality not so good as have been coming for some time. The market to-day is dull, slow, although there is yet no quotable change in prices, but dealers are not purchasing so quickly as last week, and talk of buying at lower figures. If the arrivals should come heavy prices would decline a little. The following are the rates asked for the different grades and kinds as bought and sold here. For extra 100 to 110 lbs, $6 75@7 00; good to prime, 85 to 90 lbs, $6 25@6 50; fair to good to fair, 75 to 80 lbs, $5 25@5 75; common, 70 to 75 lbs, $5 00; foot rot and scalawag, by the head, $1 50@2 50.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, January 16.—Cotton dull and unsettled; low middling 20½c. Flour and grain unchanged. Pork firm @ 25 85@26 00. Lard firm for steam at 8¾@8¾c, the latter asked; kettle dull at 9@9½c. Bulk meats quiet and little done; shoulders heavy at 5c; sides 6¾@6¾c. Bacon firm; fair shoulders 6¾c; sides 8¾@8¾c; sugars 8¾@8¾c. Hogs advanced to $4 25@4 50; receipts 3,000; heavy firm at 85c. Green meats 4¾@5½c; hams 8½@9c.

St. Louis Market.

ST. LOUIS, January 16.—Cotton quiet at 20½c. Flour firm, but restricted shipping facilities check business; prices unchanged. Wheat unchanged; No 2 spring $1 31; No 3 red fall for sample $1 55. Corn easier; No 2 mixed 37½c; No 2 white mixed 40c at elevator, according to location, closing at 40c; warehouse mixed sacked, 43c. Oats dull; track No 2 at 32½c; No 2 elevator 37½c. Barley—No 2 fall 60c. Rye easier; No 2 sold at 70c. Whisky steady at 89c. Pork dull and nominal. Dry meats—nothing doing in bulk sides clear rib 6c; do clear 6¾c; packed lots ¼c higher. Lard quiet at 8½@8¾c. Hogs closed firmer, ranging at $3 80@4 20.

Philadelphia Market.

PHILADELPHIA, January 16.—Flour easier but not quotably lower. Wheat dull; Pennsylvania and Western $1 62@1 65. Rye 75c. Corn dull and declining; yellow new 66@67½c. Oats steady at 54@55c. Provisions dull; mess pork $14 50. Lard 9½c. Coffee firm; Rio 21½c. Sugar—Cuba fair to good refining 9@9¼. Molasses dull.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, January 16.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat quiet; No 2 white Wabash $1 46¾; No 2 red $1 40@1 42. Corn firm; high mixed 47½c; low mixed 47½c; yellow 48½c. Oats dull; Michigan 41c. Clover seed steady at $6 10@6 15. Hogs firm at $5 10.

Milwaukee Market.

MILWAUKEE, January 16.—Flour dull and unchanged. Wheat unsettled; No. 1 $1 34½; No. 2 $1 32½. Oats steady; No. 2 33c. Corn firm; No. 2 mixed 41½c. Rye advanced; No. 1 67c. Barley firm; No. 2 fall 61½c. Hogs quiet at $4 15@4 25. Mess pork steady at $12 75@13 00.

Cleveland Market.

CLEVELAND, January 16.—Wheat held strong and higher; No 1 red western $1 42@1 50; No. 2 $1 40@1 41. Corn firm. Oats quiet. Refined petroleum held at 26½c, in large lots; 27½@28c in trade jobbing rates. Hogs $4 @@4 30.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 108¾@108¾.

NEW YORK, January 16—P. M.

MONEY.

Money easy at 6@6 per cent.

EXCHANGE.

Sterling exchange quiet and steady at 109¾.

GOLD.

Gold was a little firmer at one time this afternoon, but closed dull and weak at 108¾@108¾. Loans 5@7 per cent. Clearings $87,000,000.

GOVERNMENTS.

The Government bond market was quiet and steady.

Coupons 1881	115¾	5-20s, 1867	111¾
5-20s, 1862	110	5-20s, 1868	112
5-20s, 1864	110¾	10-40s	109¾
5-20s, 1865	111¼	Currency 6s	115¾
5-20s, 1865, new	110¾		

STATE BONDS.

Southern State securities were quiet and without special features.

Missouri sixes	90¾	Virginias, old	56
Tennessees, old	65¾	North Carolinas, old	33
Tennessees, new	65¾	North Carolinas, new	16
Virginias, new	54		

STOCKS.

Stocks were buoyant. The shares most prominent in the upward movement were St. Pauls, Northwestern, Wabash, Pacific Mail, Ohios and Union Pacific. The European steamers brought a liberal supply of Northwestern preferred, and the cornet in that stock was not renewed, though loans were made at ¼ per day.

Western Union	73¼	New Jersey Central	113¾
Quicksilver	26¾	St. Paul	57¾
Adams Express	91¾	do pref	81¾
Wells, Fargo & Co	58¾	Toledo & Wabash	25¾
American Express	61	do pref	85
U. S. Express	69	Fort Wayne	96
Pacific Mail	57¾	Terre Haute	24
New York Central	98¼	do pref	55
N. Y. Central Scrip	96¾	Chicago & Alton	120
Erie	24¾	do pref	122
do preferred	56	Ohio & Mississippi	28¾
Harlem	116	C C & I	88¾
do pref	130	Burlington & Quincy	124
Reading	114¾	Lake Shore	92¾
Mich Central	116¾	Panama	23¾
Cleveland & Pittsb	91¾	Illinois Central ex div	129
Northwestern	79¾	Union Pacific	33¾
do preferred	90¾	C P Bonds	102¾
Rock Island	111¾	Union	99¾

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, January 16, 1872.

FLOUR—Firm.

WHEAT—Dull; No 1 spring $1 28@1 28¾; No. 2 $1 23¾; No 3 $1 14@1 15; rejected $1 05; seller February $1 24¾; seller March $1 26¾.

CORN—Opened firm but closed dull; No. 1 mixed 41¾@42c; rejected 39@39½c; seller February 41¾c; seller April 43¾@43½c.

OATS—Dull; No 2 32½c; rejected 29@29½c; seller February 32c.

RYE—Advanced; No. 2 67c.

BARLEY—Dull; No 2 fall 61c; No 3 55c; seller February closing 61c.

PROVISIONS—Pork quiet and weak at $13 00; seller February $13 10@13 15; seller March $13 35@13 40. Lard firm at 8 25@8 60c; seller February 8 45@8 50c; seller March 8 90@8 95c.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, January 16.—Cotton declined; middling uplands 21¾c. Flour firm; superfine western and State $5 90@6 25; common to good extra $6 50@6 85; good to choice do $6 90@7 25; white wheat western extra $7 30@7 50. Rye flour and corn meal unchanged. Whisky lower at 90@90½c. Wheat steady; No 2 spring, 1 car do, $1 25 at 55; No 1 spring $1 25; No 2 winter red western $1 50@1 54; amber $1 57@1 59. Rye firm; western 92c. Barley active; Canada West $1 15; Bay quinte $1 20. Malt unchanged. Corn less active; new mixed western sold at 53¾c; old western mixed in store and afloat 53@53c. Oats quiet and unchanged. Barley and malt dull and nominal. Beef quiet; mess $9@9 50; extra $11@13; hams dull at 8@8½c; tierce quiet; messes $14@14 50; India $19@21. Dressed hogs firmer at $5 62@5 87. Cut meats dull and unchanged; middles dull; long 7¾@7¾c; bellies 8¾c. Lard firm; Chicago in bbls 9¾@9¾c. Butter steady; western 11@28c; State 34c. Cheese steady at 11@14c.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, January 16.—Dry goods—The market is more animated, and some of the leading jobbers are doing a satisfactory business for this season. Prices of leading staples are on the rise. The most important changes which have occurred to-day are as follows: Kearsarge sateens advanced from 12½ to 15c; Canoe river corset jeans from 10¾ to 11c; Columbia do from 11¾ to 12½c; Laurel do from 11 to 11¾c; Callow & Son, 4-4 bleached muslins from 13¾ to 14c; and at close agents have advanced Lonsdale 40 from 17 to 18c; Hope do 14 to 15c; Blackstone A A do 15 to 16c; Greene G do 12 to 12¾c; Red Bank do 12 to 12½c.

Louisville Market.

LOUISVILLE, January 16.—Bagging quiet at 18¾@ 14¾c. Cotton dull and nominally unchanged. Flour active and firm; extra family $6 75. Wheat firm and supply very light; small sales of white, red and 12c at previous quotations. Provisions active and firm; demand principally for bulk sides, clear rib and bacon, but prices are unchanged. Whisky steady at 89@90c.

Detroit Market.

DETROIT, January 16.—Wheat dull and declined; extra nominally $1 50; amber $1 45. Corn dull and declined; yellow 52c. Oats dull. Clovereed 5c higher and in good demand at $6 20. Dressed hogs of all weights $5 00.

COTTON MARKETS

Memphis.

MEMPHIS, January 16.—Cotton dull and nominal.

Nashville.

NASHVILLE, January 16.—Cotton quiet and weak low middlings 20c.

CARPETS.

CHRISTMAS CARPETS.

A LARGE STOCK,

OFFERED LOW.

Bovard, Rose & Co.

21 FIFTH AVENUE.

CARPETS.

OLIVER McCLINTOCK & COMPANY,

23 Fifth Avenue.

CARPETS.

FALL STOCK.

I have now on hand a Complete Assortment of every description of

CARPETING,

The Very Latest Designs and New Styles of Coloring admirably suited to the

FALL SEASON.

Druggets, Carpet Lining, &c.

Henry M'Callum

51 FIFTH AVENUE,

ABOVE WOOD STREET.

HARDWARE, CUTLERY, &C

M. WHITMORE, C. H. WOLFF, THOS. H. LANE, CHAS. T. NEALE, JOHN D. CHERRY.

Whitmore, Wolff, Lane & Co.,

IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN

Hardware and Cutlery,

SIGN OF THE ANVIL,

NO. 50 WOOD STREET,

PITTSBURGH.

JOHN KENNEDY'S SONS,

(SUCCESSORS TO JOHN KENNEDY & CO.,)

IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN

GUNS, PISTOLS, CUTLERY,

Fishing Tackle,

SPORTING AMMUNITION, &c.,

NO. 38 FIFTH AVENUE.

RAILROAD IRON

AT LOW PRICES,

For Side Tracks, Coal Roads, &c.

Also, SPLICE BARS AND SPIKES. Apply to

HITCHCOCK, McCREERY & CO.,

349 LIBERTY STREET, up stairs.

OCEAN STEAMERS.

Date of Departures from New York.

1872.

Colorado	Jan. 17	Liverpool
Siberia	Jan. 20	Liverpool
Atlantic	Jan. 20	Liverpool
Queen	Jan. 20	Liverpool
Spain	Jan. 20	Liverpool
City of Antwerp	Jan. 20	Liverpool
Java	Jan. 24	Liverpool
Wisconsin	Jan. 24	Liverpool
Herkla	Jan. 27	Liverpool
City of Paris	Jan. 27	Liverpool
Ville De Paris	Jan. 27	France
Chialdria	Jan. 31	Liverpool
Nevada	Jan. 31	Liverpool
Aleppo	Feb. 3	Liverpool

RIVER TELEGRAMS.

Greensboro.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

River stationary, with three and a half feet of water in the channel. Weather snowing; thermometer 26 at 5 P. M. G.

Brownsville, Pa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, PA., January 16, 1872.

River stationary, with five feet water in the channel. Weather cloudy; thermometer 30 at 6 P. M. C.

Wheeling, W. Va.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WHEELING, W. VA., January 16, 1872.

River six feet one inch and stationary; ice still forming. The Courier departed for Parkersburg at 11 A. M.; the Carrie Brooks, from Marietta, passed up for Pittsburgh at 10 last evening. It has snowed nearly all day: getting cold this evening. M.

Ironton, O.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

IRONTON, O., January 16, 1872.

River falling; wind west, snowing all day. The Ohio passed up at 2 P. M.; Fleetwood down at 6 P. M.; towboats James Gilmore, Picket and Queen City up to-day. The Leslie Combs did not get away till this morning; she had six bark boats and three iron boats, containing five hundred tons of metal. The local packets are on time. K.

For Latest River Dispatches See Outside.

RIVER NEWS.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

Arrived.

Geneva.....M. Cox.....Geneva.
Elector.....Abrams.....Geneva.
E. Bennett.....Z. W. Carmack.....Geneva.
Ella Faber.....Houghton.....Elizabeth.
Arlington.....D. Moore.....Cincinnati.
Carrie Brooks.....Darlington.....Parkersburg.

Departed.

Elector.....Abrams.....Geneva.
E. Bennett.....Z. W. Carmack.....Geneva.
Ella Faber.....Houghton.....Elizabeth.
West Virginia.....Donaldson.....Geneva.
Julia No 2.....Stull.....Zanesville.

Monongahela—Three feet and falling.

Boats Departing This Day.

Geneva, United State Mail boats, 8 A. M. and 3 P. M.
Parkersburg—Carrie Brooks, Darlington, 12 M.

Boats Announced.

St. Louis.....Wild Duck.....Anawalt
Nashville.....Messenger.....Greenlee.

THE marks last evening indicated three feet eight inches and falling slowly. The weather was changeable. During the forenoon we had snow. In the afternoon it was mild. Trade on the landing was not brisk.

COAL is selling at Vicksburg at 75c per keg.

THE towboat D. T. Lane brought up 900 tons of iron ore.

WOOD is sold to steamers at $2 50 a cord below Memphis.

THE shanghaost J. J. Abert is doing excellent service up the St. Francis river.

WE are indebted to the officers of the Arlington for favors. Thanks.

THE towboat Sam Brown left Louisville for this city with a tow of ore and metal.

A NUMBER of towboats are laid up between this city and Parkersburg, waiting for more water.

THE steamer Carrie V. Kountz arrived at Little Rock on Saturday.

PARTIES from Cincinnati were negotiating yesterday for the Messenger for the Marietta and Cincinnati trade.

THE steamer Arlington decided to lay up and wait for more water. From present indications she will not have to wait long.

THE packet Juniata, Captain Brennan, was announced to leave Cincinnati for this port on Monday, and the St. Charles on Tuesday.

THE Will. S. Hays has entered the New Madrid and Bends trade, leaving Memphis every Saturday. She is commanded by Capt. J. S. Shannon, and Mr. J. T. Ashnat is purser.

THE packet Julia No. 2, Capt. Stull, left for Zanesville this morning, with a good trip. She is up for punctuality, and is deservedly popular with passengers and shippers.

THE fine passenger steamer Carrie Brooks, Capt. Darlington, takes her departure this day for Wheeling, Marietta and Parkersburg. As usual, the Carrie Brooks will be crowded, and deservedly so. To the clerks are Messrs. Caldwell and Kirker.

CAPT. GEORGE W. NEARE, on behalf of the under writers, has contracted with Capt. Wm. Kyle, President of the Wrecking Company, to remove the cargo of the sunken steamer America, lying opposite Madison.

WINONA, MINN., January 13.—The new iron draw of the bridge across the Mississippi at this point was successfully swung this afternoon. It is said to be one of the longest draws in the world, being three hundred and eighty feet.

MILES STRATFORD has purchased the interest of Eli T. Ogle in the Vevay wharfboat. He takes possession on the first of February. Mr. Stratford will still continue in the business in connection with Mr. Stratford.

THE Board of Marine Underwriters of St. Louis have met and fixed rates of insurance for 1872, to all points. The rate to New Orleans will be one per cent., in advance. Last year it was eighty-five-hundredths, or four-fifths of one per cent.

HOOK'S tabboat, containing 25,000 bushels of coal, sunk at the foot of the canal, Saturday. Efforts were made to raise it. The boat was too large for the canal. Hooks, and things in general, belong in Pittsburgh, and was being towed back through the canal when it sunk at the outlet.

CAPT. J. W. DENNIS, after thirty years navigated lake ronchartrain and adjacent waters, but now a New Orleans merchant, is on a visit to St. Louis. Capt. Dennis has fitted Black Hawk No. 2, a nice little lake steamer, called the Lenora, at St. Louis.

THE fine steamer Messenger, Capt. R. Greenlee, is receiving for Evansville, Clarksville and Nashville, and will leave this evening. This is a fine steamer and deservedly so. The clerks are Messrs. Fisher and Greenlee, who will see the passengers have the best of attention.

THE U. S. mail packets on the Monongahela leave on time, 8 A. M. and 5 P. M. Their boats are all side-wheelers, built expressly for the trade, having superior accommod

THE VERY LATEST.

NEGATIVE ILLUSIONS.

Lecture of Rev. Thomas K. Beecher at Mansfield, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MANSFIELD, O., January 16, 1872.

Rev. Thomas K. Beecher delivered a lecture this evening at the Congregational Church. His subject was "Negative Illusions," which he explained as the natural passion of mankind for tearing down rather than building up, with the mistaken idea that they are working for good. He gave many illustrations of the operation of this tendency of the human mind, showing with what enthusiasm men would enter upon a destructive policy, and how slow they were to adopt the affirmative policy of construction. Men say, "behold the power of God!" when Chicago is burned, and never notice His handiwork in the grand forests, where His real power is shown in the growth of the oak and the pine. He applied his theme to the great moral and political reforms of the century—temperance and anti-slavery. We were not content to preach temperance, the regulation of indulgence, but must strike for total abstinence. The affirmative of temperance was too tame. The negative enthusiasm of total abstinence brought us to the Maine law. This accomplished, the ardor of reform was abated, and to-day drunkenness is on the increase in our land because the negative illusion of destruction by law has passed away. The slavery question was another negative illusion. Men pooh-poohed the affirmative proposition to colonize the slaves or effect emancipation by compensation to slave owners. In course of time politicians began to agitate about free labor, as the old ones had all been settled. Slavery was a promising subject, because it could be attacked by the powerful irritant of invective. It is very pleasant for us to attack the wrong doings of our neighbors. Wm. H. Seward and Stephen A. Douglas met and arranged the issue, the had this confidentially from a trustworthy source), and so the slavery question became a political one, and politicians, while protesting against abolitionism, entered into the crusade against slavery because it gave them something to fight about—something on which to exercise their destructive natures. Slavery perished at a cost of millions of treasure and hundreds of thousands of lives, a much higher price ten times over than would have bought and freed every slave by the affirmative plan of compensation. The speaker alluded to polygamy. He said that to him it is sublime spectacle for us to see a man who was willing to live by his religion, which taught him to marry, clothe, shelter and listen to the talk of six dozen wives. And Brigham Young, with all his faults, possessed this sympathy, when such a licentious mire of corruption as New York city, that had just belched forth the infamous Jim Fisk to his doom, preached a crusade against the peculiarities of Mormonism. The lecture was able but somewhat sensational. The staid people of our quiet city were somewhat startled by some of the Beecherian extravagances.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Loyalist Meeting Broken Up by London Communists.

LONDON, January 16.—While a meeting of loyalists was being held to-night at Wellington barracks, in Knights-bridge, a portion of London, a mob of republicans broke into the hall where the meeting was in progress and behaved in an outrageous manner. They expelled the chairman of the assemblage, and demolished the platform and furniture belonging to the room. Though the police were gathered outside the building, they made no efforts to prevent the disgraceful behavior of the rioters, who held possession of the room for an hour, when the gas was turned off, and they retired singing the Marseillaise as they went out.

A dispatch from Geneva states that ex-Queen Isabella and the Duke De Montpensier met on Saturday, and effected a reconciliation of such differences which have for some time existed between them.

Miscellaneous Dispatches.

LONDON, January 16.—A company to run a line of steamships between Naples and New York has been organized in the former city.

NEW ORLEANS.

Latest Phase of the Legislative Snarl.

NEW ORLEANS, January 16.—The absent Senators addressed a communication to the Senators assembled at Mechanics' Institute, protesting against the presence there of an armed body of men, stating that Senator Pinchback is not nor has he ever been the legal President of the Senate, and refusing to recognize his authority as such. The paper concludes as follows: "When these armed forces are removed, and not until then, will we voluntarily consent to take our seats in your body and participate in your proceedings." Signed by sixteen members, who, with one absent sick, constitute half the present Senators.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, January 16, 1872.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS.

There was a general [illegible] of Democratic members of the House of Representatives [illegible] Lamo Wood in the chair. Several propositions relative to the reduction of taxes, adjournment of the session of Congress, etc., were offered, debated and finally withdrawn, the caucus being of opinion it would do better to take no definite action at present.

[illegible] received [illegible] Manassas to-night, from General Emory, report affairs quiet in New Orleans, and it was supposed there would be no further difficulties. Absent members of the Senate were returning, and legislative proceedings were progressing harmoniously.

PORTER, BABCOCK & CO. WILL NOT RESIGN.

There is no foundation for the rumor that officers on duty at the Executive Mansion will resign in consequence of statements growing out of the custom house investigation in New York.

LOOKING AFTER THE SYNDICATE.

The Committee of Ways and Means to-day had the subject of the Syndicate before them it having been presented in the form of a resolution by Representative Cox. The Committee did not conclude its consideration. They will, at an early day, report all the facts showing the position of the Secretary of the Treasury in the premises, but it is not probable that they will make any recommendation.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C.,
January 15, 1872, 7:30 P. M.

PROBABILITIES.

The barometer will probably continue highest in Tennessee and Kentucky; southeasterly wind prevail on Wednesday, with cloudy weather on the coast of Texas and Louisiana; partially cloudy and pleasant weather in the Gulf and Southern States, and northward to Pennsylvania; cloudy weather continue in New England; partially cloudy and clearing weather with diminished winds from New York to Michigan; an area of low barometer extend eastward into Pennsylvania, increasing southerly winds and cloudy weather from Missouri to Lake Superior. Dangerous winds are not anticipated to-night.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, January 16, 1872.

CUBANS TO BE RECOGNIZED.

The Cuban Embassador, who arrived from Europe yesterday, and has gone to Washington, was promised, while in England, that when Parliament reassembles Great Britain shall acknowledge the Cubans as belligerents.

GENERAL SICKLES.

Who has returned from Washington, says that Spain will apologize for the Florida outrage, and indemnify the Florida's owner. The General sees no significance in the recall of the Spanish Minister. It is, he says, merely the result of a change in an ever-changing government.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH

The Japanese Embassy and suite, with the exception of the Prime Minister, have arrived at San Francisco. They were dressed in outlandish English broadcloth garments of all styles since the flood, which, however, they have discarded for the most fashionable clothing obtainable. The Prime Minister adheres to his native costume of richly embroidered satin.

One of the Japanese princesses recently arrived at San Francisco, and destined for Vassar College, is said to be exquisitely beautiful, and it is expected will make a sensation.

The steamer Britannia, from Glasgow for New York, has arrived at Halifax short of coal, after being twenty-four days out.

Rooms are being prepared at the palace in Havana for the reception of the Grand Duke Alexis. Among the entertainments mentioned are a ball and dinner to be given by the Captain General and by the Admiral. The Duke will visit the Poey plantations. The summer residence of Valmaseda has been placed at the disposition of Alexis and suite.

Both houses of the Maryland Legislature yesterday balloted for United States Senator. The votes were scattered between six candidates, with no indication of the final result.

Mat Logan, of the firm of Logan & Patterson, shot and killed Clarence Johnston in an altercation at New Orleans yesterday afternoon.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the American Central Insurance Co., at St. Louis yesterday, in which seven States were represented, a resolution was adopted requesting the board of Trustees to increase the stock subscription of the Company to $5,000,000 as soon as deemed expedient by them.

Duke Alexis and suite arrived at North Platte yesterday morning, and started for Denver at 10 o'clock last night.

During an election row in West Philadelphia last night, a man named Harry Walters was shot and mortally wounded, and others more or less injured.

MEETING OF COUNCILS.

Standing Committees for 1872.

First Business Session of the New Councils—Election of City Officers—The Committees for this Year—Report from the Board of Health—Election of Water Commissioners—Introduction of an Act of Assembly Providing for the Equalization of Taxes—The Pleasant Valley Turntable, &c., &c.

SELECT COUNCIL.

This branch came to order at 2:15 P. M., with a fair attendance of members, and President Gross in the chair.

The chairman presented a report from the Board of Health, showing the operations of the Board during the year past. The increased duties of the Board and the Health-officers was referred to as necessitated by the presence of the small pox. Two hundred and fifteen patients suffering from this disease had been attended to by the health officers. The receipts from appropriations were $9,500; receipts from permits, &c., $1,343, making a total of $10,843 96. The expenditures during the year were $10,694 48, leaving a balance in the treasury of $149 48.

The report was received and referred to the Finance Committee, as the basis for the fixing of the appropriation for the present year.

TRANSFERS OF MONEY.

Mr. Murray offered a resolution authorizing a certain transfer of appropriations to the amount of some $17,000,00. Adopted.

Second Branch Council proceeded to the Common Council chamber to elect city officers in joint session. (Reported elsewhere).

On reconvening in this branch, Mr. Morrow offered a resolution authorizing the payment of $13,664.33 to M. L. Malone, balance due on the contract for the building of the Fifth avenue Market House; and that the claim for extra be referred to arbitrators.

The resolution drew forth a prolonged discussion which was carried on by Messrs. Morrow, Liddell, Burgwin, Wainwright, Rafferty, Shipton and others. It appeared from the several statements that the money asked was due Mr. Malone on his original contract. He also claimed some $10,000, for extra work and material, but this claim, as stated in the resolution, it was proposed to refer to arbitrators. After considerable debate Mr. Morrow was allowed to withdraw the resolution.

EQUALIZATION OF TAXES.

Mr. McCarthy offered the draft of "An act to provide for the equalization of the valuation for taxable purposes of real estate within the city of Pittsburgh." This bill empowers its object in the title. It provides that the City Assessor shall, either by himself or his assistants, make a perfect list of all the real estate in the city, with a just valuation of this, specifying the boundaries of each property, &c., and shall report to the Select and Common Councils chamber to elect city officers in joint session. (Reported elsewhere).

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